

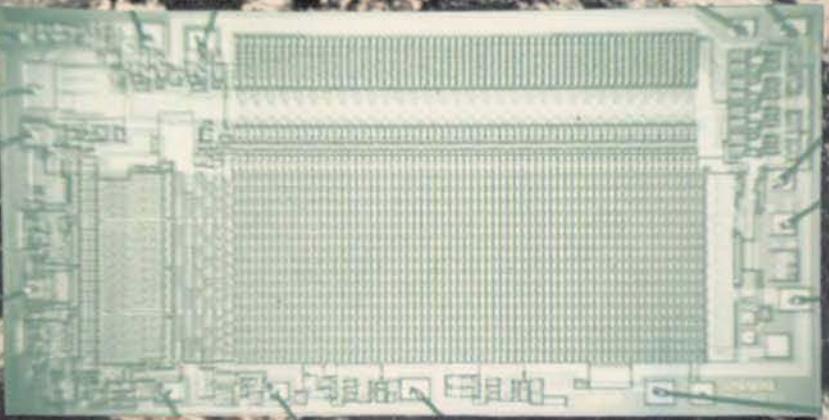
# '68'

MICRO JOURNAL

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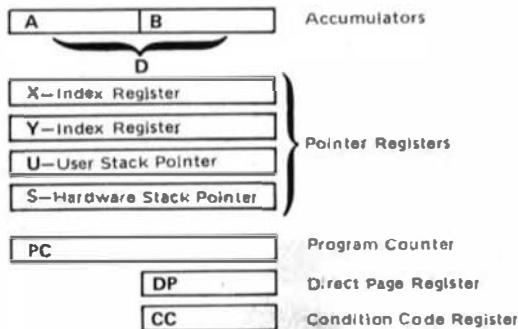


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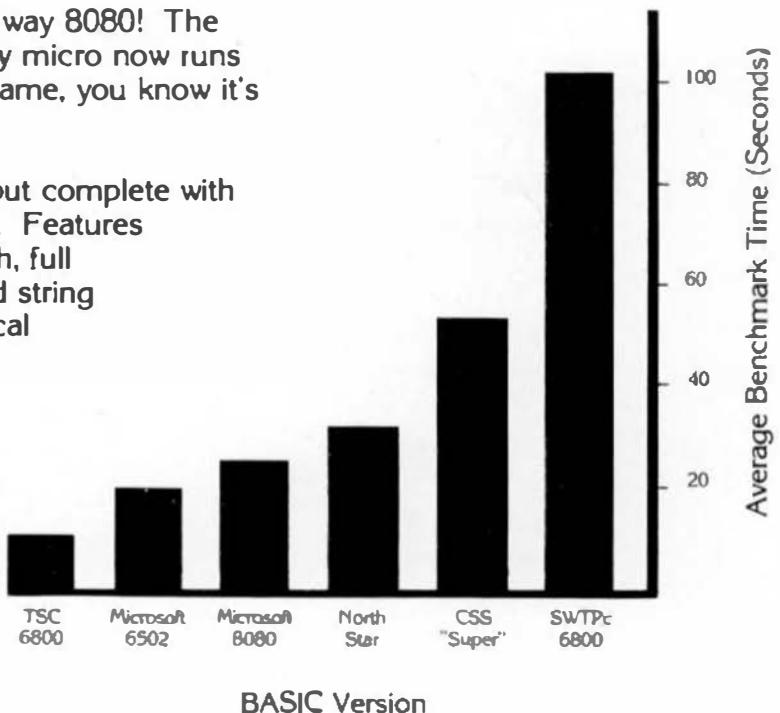
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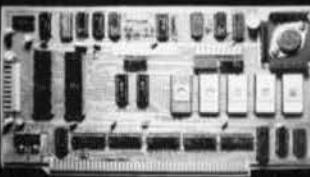
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## CRUNCHERS CORNER

This monthly column is intended to provide a place for the exchange of ideas on microcomputer arithmetic. A systematic exposition of fixed and floating point arithmetic, hardware and software, algorithms for approximation and so on is planned. Questions and comments submitted to this column can be on any subject relevant to "numbercrunching," and should be addressed to:

**Jack Bryant**  
Department of Mathematics  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, Texas 77843

We ask that all correspondents supply their names and addresses.

### MULTIPLE PRECISION ARITHMETIC

In last month's column, we introduced 8 bit unsigned and two's complement representations and presented a simple program to let one examine how the addition instruction acted. We also gave an example of a modelling problem (exponential growth) in which the size of the numbers quickly exceeded 8 bits. One lesson of this example is the following: before an 8 bit processor can be used in most problems, it must be taught to handle much longer than 8 bit data types. This month, we deal with 16 bit integers.

The 6800 has several instructions which deal directly with 16 bit data. They involve the three 16 bit internal registers: the index register X, the stack pointer S and the program counter PC. While the stack pointer could possibly be used in some arithmetic operations, this use would compromise one powerful feature of the 6800 (the non-maskable interrupt). We will refrain from using the stack pointer for any other purpose. The program counter is not really available to the outside world. This leaves the index register X. Instructions which involve X are

DEX	Decrement Index Register
INX	Increment Index Register
TXS	Transfer Index Register to Stack Pointer
TSX	Transfer Stack Pointer to Index Register
CPX	Compare Index Register
LDX	Load Index Register
STX	Store Index Register

### EXAMPLE OF USE OF INDEX REGISTER

```

        *                               68 MICRO JOURNAL
0000 CE 00 00    LDX   #000000 LOAD INDEX REGISTER WITH $0000, can be coded in essentially the same way:
0003 8C 27 10    LOOP  CPX  #100000 SEE IF THERE YET.
0006 27 03        BEP   STOP
0008 08          INX
0009 20 F8        IMPA  LOOP  NOT THERE, BUMP INDEX REGISTER.
000A 3F          STOP  SHI
000B 00          ENI
NO ERROR(S) DETECTED

```

SYMBOL TABLE:  
LOOP 0003 STOP 000B

Listing 1. Simple program to illustrate use of Index register and storage order.

The first four of these instructions are single byte instructions which execute in 4 cycles. The next three have the same addressing modes as accumulator load, store and compare, and execute in only one more cycle than the corresponding accumulator A or B dual operand instructions. For example, the instruction sequence in Listing 1 executes the LOOP sequence 10000 times and then stops.

Note how the line labelled LOOP is translated:

```
0003 BC 27 10  LOOP  CPX  #100000
```

Note also that  $10000_{10} = \$2710$ . The two byte operand containing the 16 bit numbers to which the index register is being compared is stored high-then-low. That is, the most significant bits have lower addresses. In order to take advantage of these index register instructions in arithmetic operations, we must store the more significant byte first (with lower address). (It seems strange to store numbers otherwise, but other microprocessors require the reverse order.)

### SIXTEEN BIT INTEGERS

Two byte (16 bit) integers will be interpreted as unsigned integers from 0 to 65535 or as two's complement integers from -32768 to 32767. We will always store them as suggested above: in two successive memory locations with the MSB first and the LSD second. This month's column contains an integer arithmetic package containing input (i.e. ASCII to binary), addition and subtraction. Arithmetic is carried out on (software) 16 bit registers I and M; I contains the result of an operation between I and M. The initial contents of I are replaced by the results of the operation.

(Thus I can be thought of as an 'accumulator.') For example, addition can be coded:

ADDI	LDA A I+1	FETCH LSB
	ADD A M+1	ADD
	STA A I+1	STORE
	LDA A I	FETCH MSB
	ADC A M	ADD WITH CARRY
	STA A I	STORE

The instruction ADC lets the computer perform a double precision addition. The carry bit is kept in the condition code register and is automatically added in when ACCA is added to the contents of location M. (Luckily, load and store instructions do not change the carry condition code.) Subtraction

can be coded in essentially the same way:

SUBI	LDA A I+1	FETCH LSB
	SUB A M+1	SUBTRACT
	STA A I+1	STORE
	LDA A I	FETCH MSB
	SBC A M	SUBTRACT WITH BORROW
	STA A I	STORE

Instruction SBC performs a borrow from the LSB subtraction if bit C was set.

These routines each require 12 bytes and execute in 20 cycles; an additional 14 cycles is required to treat them as subroutines. There is an unexpected potential problem: the two's complement overflow condition is not always flagged correctly at the conclusion of ADDI or SUBI, although the carry (unsigned overflow) condition is. Also, the Z (zero result) bit is

set when the MSB of the result is zero. The N (negative) bit is correct.

#### CONVERSION

From last month's discussion we know how to convert from decimal to binary by hand. In this process, we know the decimal representation is a number. The computer knows a decimal number as a string of symbols. Conversions from decimal to binary in the computer are really conversions from the symbols (the minus sign and digits 0-9) to numbers. The symbols are encoded in ASCII, a 7-bit code. The minus sign, for example, is \$10. The digits 0-9 are encoded \$30-\$39. It is thus easy to obtain the binary value of a digit (subtract \$30).

Once we have the digits, it is necessary to expand the representation. Recall (for example)

$$2743 = 2 \times 10^3 + 7 \times 10^2 + 4 \times 10 + 3.$$

This expression appears to require a table of constants for conversion and several complicated multiplications. However, notice the expression is actually a polynomial in the number 10. The correct way to evaluate a polynomial is to nest it. (This is called Horner's method, although the method was first used by Newton.) Nesting gives

$$2743 = 3 + 10(6 + 10(7 + 10(2)));\;$$

while the same number of multiplications and additions are involved, only one constant is required: the constant 10. Multiplication by 10 is carried out by writing  $10 = B + 2$ ; multiplication by B is simply three left-shifts (with bit 0 being moved to the LSB). The following code multiplies the number in M, M+1 by 10, leaving the LSB in ACCB and the MSB in ACCA.

LDA A M	ACCUMULATOR
LDA B M+1	SHIFTS ARE FASTER.
ASL B	ZERO INTO BIT 0
ROL A	*2
STA A M	SAVE TO
STA B M+1	ADD LATER
ASL B	
ROL A	*4
ASL B	
ROL A	
ADD B M+1	ADD
ADC A M	

\* \* \*

The result ends with the MSB in A and LSB in B.

The only remaining conversion problem is the sign problem. In the sign-magnitude representation, negative numbers in decimal are preceded by a minus sign. In the program READ1 of Listing 2, a flag is set if a leading minus sign is found, and the two's complement negative of the binary result of conversion is taken. If the MSB is in A and LSB is in B, this can be coded in 5 bytes as

COM A	ONE'S COMPLEMENT MSB
NEG B	TWO'S COMPLEMENT LSB
BNE SKIP	CARRY IF B IS ZERO
INC A	ADD IN CARRY
SKIP . . .	

In Flowchart 1, the process outlined above is logically explained. Listing 2 subroutine READ1 performs this task. On entry, the B accumulator is saved. The index register points to the first byte of a string to be converted. On exit, the index register points to the next non-(0-9) character, and the number is in (M,M+1). No check on validity (such as too many decimal digits) is performed. Since this program is expected to advance the index register, it changes its value. On the other hand, the B accumulator is saved and restored so that it can have meaning outside the program. Of course, these restrictions and conventions need to be made known to the user (that is, need to be documented); our first discussion of this general problem follows.

#### PROGRAMMING CONVENTIONS, STORAGE AND SPEED

When a large programming project is being planned, it is necessary to establish programming conventions. These are the groundrules which each acceptable subroutine must meet. The 6800 concept has several features which let programs be almost "universal." For example, it is possible to write reentrant code which can be shared by several users; parameters are passed to the program through the stack or accumulators. Such programs generally use indexed addressing, which is slow. On the other hand, it is also possible to write programs which execute very rapidly. This is done using the direct (page zero absolute) addressing mode, which of course is not reentrant. The philosophy followed here places roughly the same premium on storage and speed, but does not aim for reentrant code.

The 256 bytes on page zero need to be managed carefully if many programs using memory here are to fit together. READ1, for example, uses 4 bytes: {M, M+1} is a program variable. Two other temporary variables are required (ATEMP and NEGFLG); these page zero locations are available for use outside READ1, but it must be understood that READ1 will change their contents. {M, M+1} is changed, but this is expected.

The groundrules followed here for all programs intended to exist as a "package" to be used by other programs are simple:

1. The A accumulator is purely local. That is, any subroutine may modify ACCA without warning.
2. The B accumulator, however, is global: a subroutine which changes ACCB must restore the original value before returning. The exceptions to this are obvious: B could be an input parameter (such as a counter which is expected to be decremented until its value is zero), or could be used to contain an output parameter. These exceptions must be carefully documented.
3. The Index register X must similarly be global, with the same exceptions as apply to ACCB. This leads to an interesting memory management problem since no construct analogous to PSH B/PUL B exists for the index register. The code

ENTRY PSH B	SAVE ACCB ON STACK
STX XTMP	PREPARE TO SAVE X
LDA B XTMP	
PSH B	SAVE X
LDA B XTMP+1	
PSH B	
SKIP . . .	
EXIT PUL B	
STA B XTMP+1	

```

PUL B      RESTORE X
STA B XTEMP
LOX XTEMP
PUL B      RESTORE ACCB
RTS

```

simulates the convention required, but is lengthly and slow. (A PSK/PUK instruction pair would be dandy.) Of course this is only required for programs which might (directly or indirectly) call themselves. The memory management problem can be solved by setting aside page zero temporaries for each "package" of subroutines.

4. Each program must consist of code which executes in read only memory (ROM). (By using temporary random access memory (RAM) to execute very short programs with self-modifying code, we can retain this useful feature.)
5. Each program must tolerate the non-maskable interrupt instruction. In particular, the stack pointer is not to be used as an index register.

#### INPUT/OUTPUT

Subroutine READI of Listing 2 expects a decimal integer in ASCII to be pointed to by the index register. If one is found, it is translated and placed in M. Control returns to the calling program with the index register pointing to the next character which is not a digit 0-9.

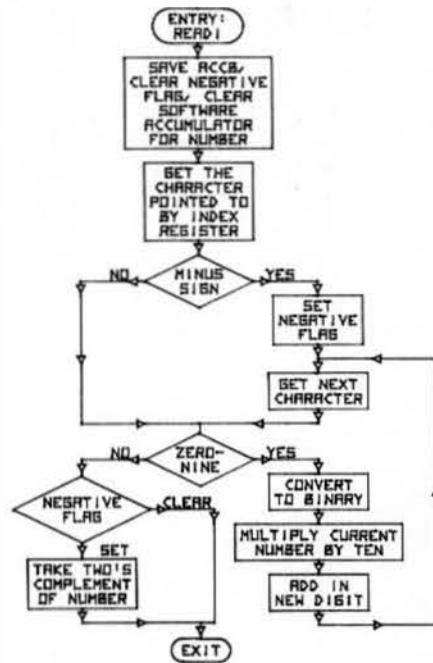
	BEFORE	AFTER
RAM		
D100	INDEX ++	-
0101	1	1
0102	0	0
0103	4	4
0104	9	9
0105	+	INDEX ++
0106	2	2
0107	1	1
0108	0	0

Subroutine INPUT in Listing 2 performs the simple task of transferring numbers and operands from the computer console to the input buffer. Only checking for a "return" (ASCII \$0D) is performed; this is echoed by a linefeed and control is returned to the calling program. (The input buffer is always accessed using indexed addressing and accordingly need not be given page zero memory space.)

Subroutine OUTPUT prints the result of the computation in hexadecimal. Next month, we discuss binary to signed decimal ASCII conversions. For the time being, we simply print the value of I in hex. This is useful since we also get a feeling for the hex representation.

The main program in Listing 2 is the subroutine BANG. This routine scans the input buffer looking for a sequence operand, operator, operand, . . . . The operands are converted to 16 bit binary with subroutine READI. Allowable operators are + and -. The line is assumed to be terminated by a carriage return. When an illegal character is found, a '?' is printed on the system console and control is returned to the calling program.

In next month's column, we discuss multiplication, division and conversion from binary to ASCII. The program in Listing 2 will be expanded to a 16 bit "four banger."



FLOW CHART 1: CONVERSION ASCII → BINARY

#### Listing 1. Integer Arithmetic Package, Version 0.1

The main features of the package as developed so far are conversion from ASCII to binary, addition and subtraction, and a program to interpret (left-to-right) a string of operands (numbers) and operators (+, - and RETURN) entered from the system console.

INTEGER ARITHMETIC PACKAGE VD.1      68 MICRO JOURNAL      PAGE 1

```

*     MRBUG EQUATES
*     PNTAII EQU  SE07E   BLOCK OUTPUT
*     INEE EOU  SE1AC   INPUT ONE CHARACTER
*     OUTEE EOU  SE1B1   CHARACTER OUTPUT ROUTINE
*     OUT4MS EOU  SE1CA1  HEX OUTPUT ROUTINE TWO BYTES
*     O0F0
*     O0F0
*     O0F1
*     O0F3
*     O0F4
*     O0F6
*     O0F8
*     RTEMP PMR  1      TEMPORARY ACCUMULATOR STOPE
*     INBLIF PMB  2      INPUT BUFFER BEGINNING
*     NEGFLG PMB  1      NEGATIVE INPUT FLAG
*     M    PMB  2      N SOFTWARE ACCUMULATOR
*     I    PMB  2      I SOFTWARE ACCUMULATOR
*     XTEMP RMK  2      TEMPORARY STOAGE FOR INDEX REGISTER
*     OPG  SFO
*     ATMP PMR  1      TEMPORARY ACCUMULATOR STOPE
*     INBLIF PMB  2      INPUT BUFFER BEGINNING
*     NEGFLG PMB  1      NEGATIVE INPUT FLAG
*     M    PMB  2      N SOFTWARE ACCUMULATOR
*     I    PMB  2      I SOFTWARE ACCUMULATOR
*     XTEMP RMK  2      TEMPORARY STOAGE FOR INDEX REGISTER
*     OPG  S0200  TEST PDUTINE STARTS HERE
*     *     TEST PROGRAM FOR INTEGER ARITHMETIC PACKAGE
*     *     VERSION 0.1
*     0200 CE 02 CE
*     0203 BD E0 7E
*     0206 BD 08
*     0208 DE F1
*     020A BD 3A
*     020C BD 27
*     020E 20 F6
*     TEST
*     LDX  BCRLFD
*     JSR  PNTAII  START WITH A NEW LINE.
*     BPL  INPUT  GET NUMBER AND OPERATOR STRING
*     LDX  INBUF
*     BPL  BANG  PERFORM OPERATION
*     BPL  OUTPUT  PRINT THE RESULT
*     BPL  TEST  DO IT AGAIN
*     *     INPUT SUBROUTINE
*     *     SUBROUTINE TO TAKE A STRING FROM THE CONSOLE
*     *     AND STOGE IN INPUT RUFFEP.
*     0210 DF F8
*     0212 37
*     0213 3F
*     0214 CE 01 00
*     0217 1F F1
*     0219 BD E1 AC
*     021C A7 00
*     021E 0B
*     INPLT  STX  XTEMP  SAVE INDEX REGISTER
*     PSH  B    CLP  B    SAVE ACCB
*     SET COUNTER
*     LDX  H$100  INBLIF  INPUT BUFFER STARTS AT $100
*     STX  INBLIF
*     INEXT JSR  INEFF  GET A CHARACTER
*     TSTCH STA  A 0..%  STOGE IT
*     INX

```

021F 5C	INC B	BUMP COUNTER	0298 0B FS	ADD B M+1	*
0220 29 DE	RVS IFULL	BUFFER SIZE = 127	0299 99 F4	ADD A M	*
0222 81 0D	CMP A <=0	CR?	029C 0B F0	ADD R ATEMP	ADD IN DIGIT
			029E 89 00	ADC A R0	AND CARRY OUT.
			02A0 36	PSH A	FREE AREA
			02A1 20 DB	BRK NEXT	DO IT AGAIN
			02A3 32	MOTONE PUL A	HERE WE DIDN'T FIND A DIGIT.
			02A4 7D 00 F3	TST NEGFLG	HERE WE DIDN'T FIND A DIGIT.
			02A7 27 05	BD0 SHIP	NEGATIVE?

#### INTEGER ARITHMETIC PACKAGE VOL. I

0224 26 F3	IHEX LDM	INEXT	INPDE	02A9 43	COM A
0226 CE 02 CF	IENTRY LDM	INPFLX	LOAD DATA FOR CR/AE	02AA 90	NEG R
0224 BD EA 7E	ITP FINITL	ITP	FINAL	02AB 26 01	INE SHIP
0220 DE FR	LDX XTEMP	XTEMP	RESTORE INDEX REGISTER	02AD 4C	INC A
022E 33	PUL B	PUL B	RESTORE ACCB	02AE 97 F4	SHIP
022F 39	PTE	PTE		02B0 87 F9	STA A M
0230 09	IFULL DEX	DEX	BUFFER FULL? GENERATE CR.	02B2 33	STA B M+1
0231 96 0B	LDA A 0BD	0BD		02B3 39	PUL B
0233 20 E7	BPA ISTASH	ISTASH			PTS

#### OUTPUT SUBROUTINE

0235 DF FB	OUTPUT STK	XTEMP	ISTASH X	02E4 96 F7	RDP1 LDR A T+1
0237 CE AD F4	LDM IT	IT	LOAD WITH ADDRESS OF I	02E6 9B FS	ADD A M+1
0238 BD E0 CB	JSR OUT4ME	OUT4ME	PRINT IT	02E8 97 F7	STH A T+1
023D CE 02 CE	LDX HCPFLD	HCPFLD	PRINT A CR/LF	02E9 96 F6	LDH A T
0240 8D E0 7E	JSR PRINTA	PRINTA		02EA 99 F4	ADC A M
0243 2E FB	LDX XTEMP	XTEMP	RESTORE X	02EB 97 F4	STA A T
0245 39	PTS	PTS		02EC 39	PTS

#### SUBROUTINE RANG

0246 37	RANG PSH B	PSH B	THIS PROGRAM OUTPUTS I IN HEX.	02E4 96 F7	RDP1 LDR A T+1
0247 8D 28	RIP READI	READI		02E6 9B FS	ADD A M+1
0249 96 F4	LDA A M	LDA A M		02E8 97 F7	STH A T+1
024B 97 F6	STA A I	STA A I		02E9 96 F6	LDH A T
024D 97 F5	STA A M+1	M+1		02EA 99 F4	ADC A M
024F 97 F7	STA A T+1	TOD.		02EB 97 F4	STA A T
0251 E6 00	RANGH LDM B 0+X	LDM B 0+X	OPERATIONS IN RANG:	02EC 39	PTS
0253 0A	INK	INK			
0254 C1 20	CMP B 0\$20	0\$20	+ ADDITION: I + I + M	02ECE 0D	CDPLD FCR \$D:\$R+4 DATA FOR CR/LF
0256 2D 17	BLT OVER	OVER	- SUBTRACTION: I - I - M	02ECF 0A 04	END
0258 8D 17	BSR PEANI	PEANI			NO ERROR(S) DETECTED
025A C1 2B	CMP B 0+	0+			
025C 26 04	RNE SUBO	SUBO			
025E 8D 54	RSR ADD1	ADD1			
0260 20 EF	RPA RANGH	RANGH			
0262 C1 2D	EURO CMP B 0-	0-			

#### INTEGER ARITHMETIC PACKAGE VOL. I

0264 26 04	IHE	ERROR	16 MICRO JOURNAL	02C1 9A F7	SUBR1 LDA A T+1
0266 8D 59	BSR	SUBT		02C3 90 F5	SUB A M+1
0268 20 E7	BRA BANGH	BANGH		02C5 97 F7	STA A T+1
026A 86 3F	FPPDP LDA A B?	B?		02C7 94 F6	LDA A T
026C BD E1 D1	JSP QNTEEE	QNTEEE		02C9 92 F4	SRCH M
026F 33	DVER PUL B	PUL B		02CB 97 F6	STA A T
0270 39	PTS	PTS		02CD 39	PTS

#### PEANI SUBROUTINE

0271 37	PEANI PSH B	PSH B	ENTER WITH INDEX REGISTER POINTING TO STRING	02CE 0D	CDPLD FCR \$D:\$R+4 DATA FOR CR/LF
0272 5F	CLP B	CLP B	TO BE CONVERTED TO 16 BIT BINARY.	02CF 0A 04	END
0273 37	PTM B	PTM B			NO ERROR(S) DETECTED
0274 D9 F3	STA B NEGLFG	NEGLFG			
0276 A6 00	LDA A 0+X	0+X			
0278 81 20	CMP A B-	B-			
027A 26 05	IHE GOOD	GOOD			
027C 97 F3	STA B NEGLFG	YES			
027E 09	INK	PREPARE TO GET NEXT ONE.			
027F A6 00	LDA A 0+X	0+X			
0281 81 30	CMP A B 0	0			
0283 2B 1E	BLT MOTONE	MOTONE			
0287 81 39	CMP A B 0	= NINE?			
0287 2E 1A	BGT NOTONE	NOTONE			
0289 80 3A	SUB A B 0	GOT ONE. CONVERT TO BINARY			
028B 97 F0	STA A ATEMP	SAVE FOR LATER			
028D 32	PUL A	RESTORE M/R			
028E 58	PUL B	*			
028F 49	PUL A	*			
0290 97 F4	STA A M	*			
0292 07 F5	AL R	*			
0294 58	AL R	*			
0295 49	AL R	*			
0296 58	AL R	*			
0297 49	AL R	*			

#### INTEGER ARITHMETIC PACKAGE VOL. I

16 MICRO JOURNAL

02A9 43	COM A	MAKE IT NEGATIVE.
02AA 90	NEG R	
02AB 26 01	INE SHIP	CARRY OUT
02AD 4C	INC A	STORE THE NUMBER
02AE 97 F4	SHIP	WE BUILT.
02B0 87 F9	STA A M	RESTORE ACCB
02B2 33	PUL B	
02B3 39	PTS	

#### SUPPORTING ADD

\* ADDS M TO I AND PLACES THE RESULT IN L.

#### SUPPORTING ADD1

\* ADDS M+1 TO I AND PLACES THE RESULT IN L.

#### SUPPORTING SUB

02C1 9A F7	SUBR1 LDA A T+1	SUPPORTING SUB
02C3 90 F5	SUB A M+1	
02C5 97 F7	STA A T+1	
02C7 94 F6	LDA A T	
02C9 92 F4	SRCH M	
02CB 97 F6	STA A T	
02CD 39	PTS	

#### SIMBOL TABLE

ADD1	0284	ATEMP	00F0	BANG	0246	RANGH	025
CDPLD	02CE	EPPDP	026A	GOOD	0281	I	00F
FINTPY	0226	IFULL	0230	INBUF	00F1	INEE	E1F
INEXT	0219	INP11	0210	ISTASH	021C	M	00F
NEGFLG	00F3	NEXT	027E	MOTONE	02A3	OUT4HS	E0C
INTEEE	F1D1	OUTPUT	0258	OUTVEP	026F	OUTR1	E07
PERDI	0271	SHIP	024E	SUR1	02C1	SUBO	02e
TEST	0206	XTEMP	00F8				

## A Look at the SWTPC CT-82 Video Terminal

Mickey E. Ferguson  
POB 708  
Trenton, GA 30752



You probably know Southwest Technical Products Corporation best as a manufacturer of 6800 based computer systems. But they were in the computer terminal business for quite some time before they started making computers. SWTPC's first terminal was the TVT-1. The TVT-II (or CT-1024, if you prefer) was their next offering and was the most popular terminal with computer hobbyists in its day. The 1024, as it was most

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often called by hobbyists, was restricted to only thirty-two upper case characters per line, sixteen lines per screen, and a maximum baud rate of 1200 bps. It also had no chassis or case. In its favor, the 1024 was economical (about \$300) and it worked and worked and worked. As a result a "cottage industry" developed, offering after-market modifications to add scrolling, sixty-four character line length, lower case, etc. Then SWTPC replaced the 1024 with the CT-64; to calm the restless natives it offered most of the features that CT-1024 owners had been adding to their terminals. In addition, the CT-64 came with an excellent Motorola video monitor as well as a chassis and cover.

A REAL terminal is here now. It is the CT-82, and it sets new standards for video terminals. End of history lesson.

Forget everything that you may know about video terminals because it no longer applies. The CT-82 is the first of an entirely new generation of video terminals. It is built around a 6802 microprocessor and a 6845 CRT controller chip. A what? A CRT controller chip (CRTC), of course. According to Motorola, "The MC6845 CRT Controller performs the interface to raster scan CRT displays. It is intended for use in processor-based controllers for CRT terminals." The CRTC takes care of the video generation, video timing, etc.; while the 6802 communicates with you thru the keyboard, with the computer thru an RS-232 interface, and (optionally) with a printer thru a parallel interface. The CRTC and the 6802 communicate with each other and with memory via a common address and data bus. So the CRTC and the microprocessor work together as a stand alone memory mapped video display. Since the 6802 works in memory during one phase of the clock, while the CRTC is in memory during the other phase; each is able to operate at maximum speed. Neither device slows the operation of the other and each needs never be aware of the fact the other device ever has control of the bus. The end result, the CT-82, is a terminal that costs less and does more than seems reasonably possible. But, is the CT-82 really a terminal? Isn't it really a microcomputer that simply thinks it is a terminal? Whatever the CT-82 may actually be inside, it is a quality video terminal at a reasonable price.

## First Impressions

I had difficulty believing the little box that the UPS man brought actually contained my CT-82. How could a container so small have a CRT terminal inside? Upon lifting the box, I was completely convinced that a horrible mistake had been made. It did not weigh enough to have a complete CRT terminal in it. But it did. The CT-82 only weighs about twenty pounds (9 kg) and measures ten inches (25.4 cm) high, by eighteen inches (45.7 cm) wide, by seventeen inches (43.2 cm) deep.

SWTPC has been advertising the CT-82 just about everywhere except in porno magazines, so you must have seen its picture. The pictures do not do it justice. The CT-82 is cute (my wife says it's darling) unlike its predecessor, the CT-64. It blends well into almost any home or office environment without attracting undue attention to itself or creating an eyesore.

The nine inch (diagonally measured) CRT caused some disappointment on my part initially. But this was countered by the "senuous feel of the keyboard" (to quote John Craig, Editor of Creative Computing). The keyboard uses Cherry keyswitches for both high reliability and excellent feel. There is also a twelve key pad for cursor control and editing functions in addition to the regular keyboard. Optionally, the cursor control pad can be replaced with a numeric pad should you desire it enough to pay extra for the added convenience. Other than the keyboard, the only external controls are the power switch and the configure switch. There is a DB-25 female RS232 connector on the rear of the CT-82 for communication with the outside world.

The configure switch allows the user to tell the CT-82 what is expected of it when power is first applied. It has two positions, which are auto and programmable. With the configure switch in the auto position, the CT-82 assumes it is to operate in the conversational mode, in full duplex, with sixteen lines per screen, at 9600 baud. With the configure switch in the programmable position, the power up options are controlled by an internal dip switch. The dip switch allows the user to select either conversational or paged edit modes, half

generator installed, in the graphics mode the CT-82 displays twenty two lines of ninety two characters. The upper case character set is the standard ASCII upper case, while the lower case is composed of graphic symbols. For graphics purposes, each character position is divided into six pixels (two horizontally by three vertically). This gives a resolution of one hundred eighty four pixels horizontally and sixty six pixels vertically. The limitation on graphics resolution in the standard CT-82 is the amount of memory in the terminal. I will not be at all surprised when some enterprising individual devises a simple modification to expand the graphics resolution of the CT-82 to five hundred twelve horizontal by two hundred fifty six vertical.

The graphics character set in SWTPC's character generator, in my opinion, leaves much to be desired. When I am attempting to use the graphic character set, I invariably need some symbol that is not there. However, this does not present as much of a problem as you might think because you do not have to use the graphics character set. You see, the CT-82 can also do co-ordinate graphics (like the TRS-80). In fact, any graphics program written for the TRS-80 can be easily modified to run on a computer using the CT-82. The biggest difference between graphics on the TRS-80 and the CT-82 is that the CT-82 can do more with less programming. To draw a graphics line on the TRS-80, you must turn on each pixel individually. If you know the starting and ending points of the line, the CT-82 can draw the entire line for you with a single command from the computer. The CT-82 can also invert your graphics allowing white on black or black on white. Careful use of the CT-82's Yaw, Pitch, Slide, Roll, Scroll, and Invert commands lets you approach animation. This is particularly impressive at 38.4k baud.

As mentioned earlier, SWTPC is offering a companion editor for use with 6800 systems utilizing FLEX and a CT-82. It is the first piece of software offered by SWTPC that was written by SWTPC, and they "modestly" refer to it as THE EDITOR. Thru the efforts of Dan Meyer at SWTPC, I was able to get an early copy of their Editor for evaluation.

The Editor works from input file to memory to output file; it is able to make multiple passes thru the file without returning to the operating system. As a new pass is begun, the old output file becomes the new input file and the old input file becomes the new output file. The Editor uses two different types of commands. There are alphabetic commands like D - delete, I - insert, and F - find. There are also commands that are entered from the cursor control pad. For example, pressing the FORM key on the cursor control pad moves the text on the screen up nineteen lines or one page. A puzzling feature of the editor is its ability of text manipulation by line number. This is interesting because it does not use nor display line numbers.

The choice and evaluation of text editors is a very subjective business. A lot depends upon the type of work done with the editor. Everyone seems to have his or her personal favorite. I must admit that I prefer the TSC editor to the SWTPC editor. Don Williams takes the opposing view preferring the SWTPC editor. (Ed's Note: I actually prefer the TSC Editor for some functions and the SWTPC Editor for others. An example is our mailing list; the SWTPC Editor is much simpler to use. For text, such as this article I prefer the TSC Editor.)

The CT-82 is indeed an impressive terminal, but has perfection been achieved? I scarcely thought so, at first. The 9" monitor just had to be too small. After living with it for a while my opinion has changed. The 12" monitor on my old terminal seems too big. One does not look at the CRT on a terminal from across the room and at normal viewing distances, the 9" CRT is quite adequate. This is perhaps enhanced by its extreme sharpness and clarity. It is rather unusual for a CRT to be focused properly at all points on the screen. Often the edges are fuzzy when the center is sharp, and vice versa. Such is not the case with the CT-82, the display is very sharply focused at all points on the CRT screen. All of the CT-82's I have seen have shared this characteristic, which causes me to believe that it is not unique to my terminal. I have acquired the habit of using the graphics character generator (with the 92 by 22 screen format) any time that I do not need lower case. This

generator installed, in the graphics mode the CT-82 displays twenty two lines of ninety two characters. The upper case character set is the standard ASCII upper case, while the lower case is composed of graphic symbols. For graphics purposes, each character position is divided into six pixels (two horizontally by three vertically). This gives a resolution of one hundred eighty four pixels horizontally and sixty six pixels vertically. The limitation on graphics resolution in the standard CT-82 is the amount of memory in the terminal. I will not be at all surprised when some enterprising individual devises a simple modification to expand the graphics resolution of the CT-82 to five hundred twelve horizontal by two hundred fifty six vertical.

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format gives characters about the same size as an office typewriter and puts more information on the screen at one time. Now the 9" monitor seems too big when I have to use either of the lower case screen formats.

I nearly threw that "sensuous" keyboard in the garbage. I thought SWTPC had done it again. Keys that felt like mush, keys that didn't do anything, and most of the keys were double striking. However the mushy keys and the non-working keys were the fault of the shippers. And the double striking keys were caused by a capacitor of the wrong value not by the key switches. It seems that some early CT-82's (mine included) had a .001 mfd instead of a .01 mfd capacitor for C8 on the keyboard. If you have an early CT-82 with double striking keys, I urge you to check the value of this capacitor.

My biggest complaint (and only really valid one) is the lack of a RESET button. I'm not the best programmer around and my programs often run away printing wildly. A run away program cannot suppress the printing of control characters. Many strange control character sequences are printed which configure the CT-82 in ways it was never intended to be configured. The only way to recover is to turn the power off on the CT-82. I need a means of recovery such as a RESET button. Or some way to return to the configuration established when the CT-82 is turned on, short of turning power off.

#### Conclusion

The CT-82 is one of the brightest of the smart terminals available today and truly a pleasure to use. For the approximate cost of a dumb terminal (\$795) it is probably today's best buy in CRT terminals. It offers many features unavailable on terminals costing three times as much. Unlike the earlier offerings from SWTPC, the CT-82 is truly a professional quality terminal. But like all SWTPC products, it has a "hobbyist quality" price.

#### \*\* SUBSCRIPTION NOTICE \*\*

As most readers are aware, 68 Micro Journal came out approximately one month late. This was a direct result of a paper order mistake that was beyond our control. As a result we ended up placing the magazine, in the hands of the postal

service, near the end of the monthly issue date. Most February copies were received in March. Issue number 1 was dated February 1979 and mailed the latter part of February. It should have been mailed the latter part of January 1979. So, we were a month late.

In order that we may get back to a more normal schedule, this issue is dated March-April 1979. The May issue then can be mailed at a more reasonable time; latter part of April. This will in no way cause any subscriber to miss a single issue of 68 Micro Journal. It simply means that if your subscription was due to expire in January 1980, it will expire with the February issue 1980. So you see, you will still have received 12 separate issues, one each month, provided yours is a one year subscription. Of course if you are subscribed for two or three years the same hold true, for the one month extension. Life subscribers of course really don't care, that is just as long as they receive 68 Micro Journal each month, till then. They will.

## LETTERS

Tom Harmon  
Box 493  
Laurel, Md.  
20810  
To: Don Williams

Dear Mr. Williams,

A comment about your FLEX TO BFD article; This is the kind of article that I think that most of the readers enjoy but, I must pick at the reasons given by Mr. Puckett for the conversion to FLEX. His comment that the TTYSET utility is an overpowering reason to change to FLEX is lost on me. I also have written a conversion and ran FLEX only to find out that when I set the TTYSET for my video terminal (16 lines and then stop) that the damn thing also stopped in the middle of a BASIC programme. BASIC uses the disk IO for its' IO and this is very disturbing.

I also found the forced extensions a total mess as in the SMOKE DOS I have about 10 megabytes of software and cannot

afford to have TXT after every text file.

VERY IMPORTANT is the fact that my editor and my word processor and my BASIC int. as well as compiler can read and work on ANY file of ANY kind when there are NO forced extensions.

I find this and the almost unlimited utilities available alone to set the SMOKE DOS so much ahead of FLEX that I can't find anyone in this area who uses flex anymore. By the way, SMOKE sells a board for SWTP disk users that will upgrade them in hardware and software to the SMOKE System.

Don't forget that on the SMOKE I have: Several BASIC's, (2 are compilers), Fortran, Pilot, Fourth, Random access (for a while now), and the detail that ALL software used on SMOKE DOS 'MON68' (the first), thru DOS4.2, will run on any other version with no changes. That is software! Please don't forget that all of this is compatible with existing hardware and software. Have any of you tried running FLEX 8" with a 32k board? FLEX 5 and FLEX 8 cannot copy a programme from one to the other without a lot of hassle. On my SMOKE I run 2ea 8" drives mixed with 2ea 5" drives, AND THE SOFTWARE DOESN'T CARE!!

All in all, I enjoyed the article, but you can see I am very opinionated. Thanks for the great magazine!

Tom Harmon

Howard Berenbon  
27200 Franklin Rd. #105  
Southfield, MI 48034

#### 6800 RELATIVE MODE BRANCHING, BY HAND

Here's a simple method for the machine language programmer to aid in calculating the values of relative mode branches with the 6800. It's called "COUNT".

Using "COUNT" eliminates the need to derive the branch value with



March 6, 1979

Don Williams Sr.  
68 Micro Journal  
3018 Hamill Head  
P.O. Box 849  
Knoxville, Tenn. 37340

Dear Don,

Congratulations on a fine first issue. We will be proud to sell the 68 Micro Journal and advertise in it too.

One thing though, in the article by our old friend Dale Puckett, "FLIX to BFD", he says that the Computer Mart of New York told him that the Smoke Signal System was the only one to consider because of the poor software delivered with the SMTPC MP-68. That was correct at the time, because South West was supplying a disk operating system called POOS with the MP-68. We considered that to be inferior to the BFD operating system and I suppose that SMTPC did also because they changed to Y8X.

As one of the oldest computer stores selling 6800 equipment, we are dedicated to providing support to 6800 users. We have sold SMTPC, MSI, Smoke Signal equipment for three years now and 6800 users are our most loyal customers.

It is about time that there was a publication devoted to the most reliable and interesting of all computer systems.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stan Veit".

Stan Veit  
Storekeeper

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two's-compliment arithmetic, thus eliminating a tedious chore. I use a subtraction method to arrive at the required value, quickly.

"COUNT" allows calculating values for 'forward' and 'backward' relative branches. The method for calculating these branch values are not identical, but similar. Although the examples given for forward and backward "COUNT" are very short branch distances, these rules may be applied successfully to branches whose destinations are + and - 128 (decimal).

"COUNT" is quick and simple to use. It eliminates using two's compliment arithmetic and save time for the machine language programmers. (Ed's note: Bless their hearts, long may they live and code.)

#### Forward Branching

Forward branching is somewhat simpler than backward, requiring only a value (in hex) as the distance from the address of the branch statement to its forward destination, minus 02. In other words,

subtract the address of the branch statement from the address of the branch destination. Then subtract 02 from the value (see example below). Destination address - Branch address - 02 = Branch value:

Example:

Address	Object Code	Mnemonic	
1000	B6 1020	SUB	LDAA NUMBER 100B
1003	26 03	BNE DEST	-1003
1005	C6 09	LDAB 09	-----
1007	39	RTS	05
1008	4A	DEST DECA	-02
1009	B7 1020	STAA NUMBER	-----
100C	7E 1000	JMP SUB	03

### Backward Branching

Backward "COUNT" is calculated by subtracting the backward destination address from the branch statement address, and a 01 is added to the result. Then, the final value is subtracted from FF (hex) to arrive at the branch value.

FF = {(Branch address - Destination address) + 01} = Backward Branch Value:

Example:

Address	Object Code	Mnemonic	
1000	B6 1020	UP	LDAA NUMBER 100B
1003	26 05	BNE LOW	-1000
1005	C6 10	LDAB 10	-----
1007	4A	DECA	08
1008	20 F6	BRA UP	+01
100A	39	LOW RTS	-----
			09
			FF
			-09
			-----
			F6
			-----

The following is presented for those who prefer to let the computer, do the work. The catch is, if you are in memory, writing a program, it is bad to jump out and call a machine program, to do it for you. Therefore; HAVE IT BOTH WAYS.....

### RELATIVE BRANCH CALCULATOR

By: Dale Heatherington

### Calculating Relative Addresses

The calculation of relative addresses for branch instructions on the Motorola 6800 (or Zi-log Z-80 or MOS 650X) may appear formidable at first to the beginner. However, this skill is required in order to manually code machine language instructions for short routines, as is often done to avoid the time required for an assembly, or in order to modify existing routines which have already been loaded into memory. The procedure for manually calculating short jumps (and most are short) is relatively simple, however. It involves a counting process.

First consider jumps forward in the following routine:

0100	B6 0200	LDAA	Load A with contents of 0200.
0103	B1 45	CMPA	Is the value 45?
0105	27	BEQ	If equal go to 010A.
0107	20	BRA	If not, go to 0100.
0108	4C	INCA	Add 1 to A.
010A	BD 0400	JSR	Go to subroutine at 0400.

In this routine the relative address for BEQ (27   ) to jump forward to 010A is counted as follows:

(00) (01)		
0107	20	--
(02)		
0109	4C	(03)
010A	BD	0400

Start counting at the next byte after the address with 00 and count forward to the desired address, in this case 03, so the correct instruction is 27 03. So the correct address for the blank is F7. This will cause the jump back to 0100 as desired.

Remember: to jump forward, count forward from the relative address starting with 00 for the next byte, and to jump backward, start with the relative address byte as FF and count backward to the desired address. Double-check backward branches by counting forward from the calculated value, hopefully ending up with FF for the branch value. Double-check forward branches by counting forward again, as noted before.

If, in calculating a long branch, the resultant value cannot be contained in one byte (greater than FF for a forward branch or less than 00 for a backward branch), the branch is illegal as stated and must be changed to a jump or a chain of branches.

If a Motorola 6800 is available during the coding process, this same process may be automated by the use of the program below. The program starts at hex 0400 and is 112 bytes long. It makes use of two M6800 I/O subroutines, BADDR at E047 and PDAT1 at E07E.

When the program is started it will type "PROM". You should then type the address of the second byte of the branch instruction. Typing any character other than a valid hex digit will cause a return to M6800. The program will then type "TO". You should then type in the target address of the branch. The program will then respond with the word "BRANCH" followed by the offset to be entered as the second byte of the branch instruction. If the target address is out of range the word "ERROR" will be printed. The program will loop back to its start and print "PROM" again. This process will be repeated until the RESET button is depressed.

For backward branches, the counting is similar, except start

counting with the relative address byte as FF as follows:

	(P7)	(P8)	(P9)
0100	06	0200	(FB)
0103	81	45	(FD)
0105	27	03	(FF)
0107	20	--	BRA Go to 0100.

or a non-hex character is entered.

```

        NAM    CAL
'RELATIVE BRANCH
'CALCULATOR FOR $0000
'BY DALE HEATHINGTON
'10/14/78
'MIXBUD ROUTINES AT $E047
'AND SDET ARE USED.
        OPT    O
        OPT    S
0400 04    ORG    $0400
0400 0E    #STR   $0408
0400 START  LOS    #STK
0401 CE    #0408 LDX    #FROM
0402 BD    E07E JSR    SDET
0403 BD    E047 JSR    SDET
0404 FF    #047B STX    SAVE
0405 CE    #0482 LDX    #TO
0406 BD    E07E JSR    SDET
0407 I0    #047F JSR    SDET
0408 FF    #047D STX    SAVE + 2
0409 BD    14    LSR    COMPUTE
0410 CE    #0460 LDX    #BRANCH
0411 BD    E07E JSR    SDET
0412 CE    #0480 LDX    #SAVE + S
0413 BD    E08F JSR    SDET
0414 CE    #0470 LDX    #CRLF
0415 BD    E07E JSR    SDET
0416 07    C    BRA    START
0417 00    C    LDW    INDEX POINTS TO STORAGE AREA
0418 00    C    LDW    GET "FROM" ADDRESS TO A88
0419 00    C    LDW    INVERT ALL BITS IN A & B
0420 03    C    COM    ADD A,B
0421 AB    03    ADD A 3.X
0422 E9    02    ADC B 2.X
0423 07    08    STA A 0.X
0424 C1    FF    CMP B =FF
0425 BD    E07E JSR    BACK
0426 00    C    TST B TEST B
0427 00    C    TST A BRANCH IF NOT ZERO
0428 00    C    TST A TEST LS8 OF RESULT
0429 00    C    RTS   TEST LS8 OF RESULT
0430 00    C    RTS   NO ERROR, RETURN
0431 CE    #0478 COMPUT LDW    #SAVE
0432 AB    01    LDA A 1.X
0433 E6    00    LDA B 0.X
0434 00    C    LDW    INVERT ALL BITS IN A & B
0435 03    C    COM    ADD A,B
0436 AB    03    ADD A 3.X
0437 E9    02    ADC B 2.X
0438 07    08    STA A 0.X
0439 C1    FF    CMP B =FF
0440 BD    E07E JSR    BACK
0441 00    C    TST B TEST B
0442 00    C    TST A BRANCH IF NOT ZERO
0443 00    C    TST A TEST LS8 OF RESULT
0444 00    C    RTS   TEST LS8 OF RESULT
0445 00    C    RTS   NO ERROR, RETURN
0446 CE    #0473 ERR   LOX    #ERROR
0447 BD    E07E JSR    SDET
0448 00    C    RTS   RETURN
0449 00    C    LDW    FROM FCB $00,SOA
0450 00    C    LDW    TO     FCB 4
0451 00    C    LDW    TO     FCB $00,SOA
0452 00    C    LDW    TO     FCB 5, TO
0453 00    C    LDW    TO     FCB $00,SOA
0454 00    C    LDW    TO     FCB 7,BRANCH
0455 00    C    LDW    BRANCH FCB $4
0456 00    C    LDW    BRANCH FCB $00,SOA
0457 00    C    LDW    CRLF FCB 4
0458 00    C    LDW    CRLF FCB $00,SOA
0459 00    C    LDW    ERROR FCB 4
0460 00    C    LDW    ERROR FCB $00,SOA
0461 00    C    LDW    ERROR FCB 5,ERROR
0462 00    C    LDW    ERROR FCB $00,SOA
0463 00    C    LDW    ERROR FCB 6,ERROR
0464 00    C    LDW    ERROR FCB $00,SOA
0465 00    C    LDW    SAVE FCB 4
0466 00    C    LDW    SAVE FCB $00,SOA
0467 00    C    LDW    ENO   0

```

## MAILLIST

Randal Lilly N3ET  
752 S. Carlton St.  
Allentown, PA 18103

OK so you can't get away from the

computer games long enough to make use of the \$3,000.00 toy. Well you can help the local radio club or other society to keep those books straight. This MAILLIST program was written to keep track of a newsletter mailing list. As set up here, it will produce mailing labels and a formatted list which is used when updating is needed.

While the program as is does a fine job, it can be readily changed for other output formats. The label formatter prints four lines of address and two blank lines for each label. A strip of blank labels and a Decwriter are used for printing. The number of printable lines may be changed at location \$0086 and the number of blank lines may be changed by adding more or less JSR PCRLF statements at location \$0135.

The listing formatter prints similar to that of the label formatter, except that it prints three labels across, ten deep, does paging and has a private file option. The number of lines printed and the width should not be changed. The depth, which is set to ten, may be changed at location \$00CE, and the number of margin (eject) lines may be changed at location \$00C6. Location \$00F2 may be used to make minor changes in the field width of each address.

Use of the TSC Text Editor (C) is invaluable when inputting a new file or updating an existing file. The address files are stored in FLEX (TM) minidisk files, and are compatible with the text editor, FLEX BUILD utility or SWTPC BASIC.

Using the TSC Text Editor, a typical edit of the address file will look like the following:

```

1.00 LASTNAME, FIRSTNAME
2.00 STREET ADDRESS
3.00 CITY, STATE
4.00 ZIP HAM CALL
5.00 CODES *PHONE
6.00
7.00 LASTNAME, FIRSTNAME
8.00 STREET ADDRESS
9.00 CITY, STATE
10.00 ZIP HAM CALL
11.00 CODES *PHONE
12.00

```

The last entry must be followed by

twelve blank lines and a line containing one or more 'UP ARROWS'. The 'UP ARROW' character tells the MAILLIST program that it should finish. The twelve blank lines look like two blank entries. These are printed as blanks.

Line 11 above can be used for special codes as you see fit and these will be printed. Line 11 also shows how an unlisted (private) phone number is treated. When a '\*' character is found, it and that which follow it are not printed, unless you indicate it is not a PRIVATE file, when asked at the start of the program. Lines 6 and 12 are normally blank, but may contain other information (which will not be printed). Only the formatted list will print lines 5 and 11, so the mailing labels will not have phone numbers on them.

To use the program type MAILLIST, FILENAME. The text file will be pulled off disk and stored in memory. The program will ask if it is a private file, type 'Y' if you do not want anything following the '\*' to be printed. Otherwise type 'N'. Next, type 'M' followed by a carriage return for mailing labels, or 'L' followed by a carriage return for a formatted list.

Try a small file first (about six names and addresses) and run the program. Then get busy and enter all the names and addresses you might have. Later updates become easier each time.

----

**Editors Note:** The 'formatted list' can also be labels (Avery #5380) by setting the field width of each line (Line 185, \$00F2).

PAGE 001 MAILLIST R. LILLY 1-4-79

```

00001      NAME MAILLIST R. LILLY 1-4-79
00002      R. LILLY 1-4-79
00003      MOVE TEXT TO MEMORY,FORMAT,PRINT
00004 00000      ORG $0000
00005      6FFF      MENEND EQU $6FFF
00006      7103      WARMS EQU $7103
00007      E1AC      INEEE EQU $E1AC
00008      7112      PUTCHR EQU $7112
00009      711E      PCRLF EQU $711E
00010      7127      GETFILE EQU $7127
00011      712D      SETEXT EQU $712D
00012      7740      FCBI EQU $7740
00013      7806      FMS EQU $7806
00014      7803      FMSCLS EQU $7803
00015      E07E      PDATAI EQU $E07E
00016 0000 20 05      BRA TON
00017 0002 01      VH FCB 1      VERSION NUMBER 1
00018 0003      XSAVE RMB 2      STORE ADDRESS
00019 0005      LINCNT RMB 1
00020 0006      COUNT RMB 1
00021      *
00022      8 LINES OF TEXT MUST BE
00023      FOLLOWED BY C.R.'S AS IN A TEXT
00024      EDITOR DISC FILE.
00025      *
00026      STYPE 'MAILLIST,FILENAME'
00027      RFILE PULLED FROM OPPOSITE DRIVE.

```

```

00028      BURLEBB DRIVE IS SPECIFIED.
00029      "
00030      STYPE M C.R. (MAILING LABELS)
00031      STYPE L C.R. (FORMATTED LIST)
00032      "
00033      SET A PRIVATE FILE; THE TEXT FOLLOWED
00034      BY A '*' WILL NOT BE PRINTED.
00035      "
00036      TEXT SHOULD BE AS FOLLOWING:
00037      * NAME LILLY, RANDY
00038      * STREET 752 B. CORDON ST.
00039      * TOWN ALLENDALE, PA.
00040      * ZIP 16103-3367
00041      * INFO TCK 8791-3774 (PRIVATE)
00042      ----- BLANK LINE -----
00043      "
00044      END OF FILE SHOULD CONTAIN
00045      #2 BLANK LINES FOLLOWED BY A LINE
00046      EOF ----- (UP ARROW)
00047      "
00048      LABELS ARE 4 LINES DEEP WITH
00049      #2 BLANK LINES.
00050      "
00051      FORMATTED LIST IS 3 WIDE BY
00052      #10 DEEP AND DOES PAGING.
00053      "
00054      B TEXT TO MEMORY
00055      "
00056 0007 CE 0155 TON      LDX #BUFST
00057 0004 DF 03      STA XSAVE
00058 0006 CE 7740      LDX #FCB1
00059 000F BD 7127      JSR GETFILE      GET FILE SPEC
00060 000C CE 7740      BCS ERROR
00061 0012 25 14      LDA A #1      SETUP TXT EXT
00062 0014 86 01      LDX #FCB1
00063 0014 86 01      LDA A #1      SET DEFAULT EXT
00064 0016 CE 7740      LDX #FCB1
00065 0019 BD 712D      JSR SETEXT
00066 001C CE 7740      LDX #FCB1
00067 001F BD 01      LDA A #1      OPEN FOR READ COMMAND
00068 0021 AD 00      STA A 0,x
00069 0023 BD 7806      JSR FMS
00070 0024 27 1F      BCS NEXTCH
00071      BERROR
00072 0028 CE 011F ERROR      LDX #ERRDRO
00073 0028 BD E07E      JSR PDATA1
00074 002E 7E 7103      OUT JMP WARMS
00075      "
00076 0031 BB E07E DUTIN      JSR PDATA1
00077 0034 7E E1AC IME      JMP IMEEE      CRT OUTPUT
00078      "
00079 0037 DE 03      OK      LDX XSAVE
00080 0039 AD 00      STA A 0,x      STORE BYTE IN MEMORY
00081 0038 A1 00      CMP A 0,x      TEST MEMORY
00082 003D 26 14      BNE CLOSE
00083 003F 08      IWX
00084 0040 DF 03      STX XSAVE
00085 0042 BC 6FFF      CPX DREMEMD
00086 0045 27 0E      BEQ CLOSE
00087 0047 CE 7740      NEXTCH      LDX #FCB1
00088 0044 BD 7806      JSR FMS      GET NEXT RECORD
00089 0040 27 EB      BEQ DK
00090 004F AD 01      LDA A 1,x      GET BYTE FROM FLEX
00091 0051 BD 01      CMP A #0      END OF FILET
00092 0053 24 D3      BZ ERROR
00093 0055 BD 7803 CLOSE      JSR FMCLB      CLOSE FLEX FILE
00094 0058 BB AD 042 MAIL      LDX 000A042
00095 0059 CE 012C      LDX #PRVAT      PRIVATE FILET
00096 005E BD 01      BBR TEN
00097 005E BD 01      CLR D
00098 0060 5F      CLR D
00099 0061 B1 59      CMP A #Y
00100 0062 B2 02      BNE STAB
00101 0065 CA 2A      LDA B #C
00102 0067 D7 02      STA B UN
00103 0069 CE 0144 PROMP      LDX DLISIT      LABEL OR LIBTY
00104 006C BD C3      BBR OUTIN
00105 006E 14      TAB
00106 006F BB C3      BBR INE
00107 0071 B1 0D      CMP A #$0D
00108 0073 24 F4      BNE PROMP      NOT CR
00109 0075 17      TBA
00110 0076 B1 1B      CMP A #\$1B      ESCAPE
00111 0078 27 B4      BEQ OUT
00112 007A B1 4C      CMP A #L
00113 007C 27 B8      BEQ LIST      PRINT FORMATTED LIST
00114 007E B1 40      CMP A #N
00115 0080 24 D4      BNE MAIL      IMPROPER ENTRY
00116      "
00117      B GENERATE MAILING LABELS
00118      "
00119 0082 CE 0154 LABELS      LDX #BUFST-1
00120 0085 C6 04      MAIL2 LDA B #4      PRINT 4 LINES
00121 0087 08      MAIL1 LDX
00122 0088 44 00      LDA A 0,x
00123 0088 B1 3E      CMP A 0,x      END OF PRINTING
00124 008C 27 F6      BEQ EXIT
00125 0088 B1 0D      CMP A #$0D      C.R. T
00126 0090 27 05      BEQ NLINE
00127 0092 BD 7112      JSR PUTCHR
00128 0093 20 F0      BRA MAIL1
00129      "
00130 0097 BD 711E WLINE      JSR PCRLF      C.R.-L.F.
00131 009A 5A      DEC B
00132 0099 26 EA      BNE MAIL1
00133 0099 C6 62      LDA B #2      BRIP 2 LINES OF TEXT
00134 009F BD 4A      BSR FALL
00135 00A1 BD 711E      JSR PCRLF      BLANK LINES
00136 00A4 BD 711E      JSR PCRLF      BETWEEN LABELS
00137 00A7 20 0C      BRA MAIL2
00138      "
00139      "
00140      B GENERATE FORMATTED LIST
00141      "
00142 00A9 BD 711E LIST      JSR PCRLF
00143 00AC CE 0154      LDX #B-1
00144 00AF C6 05      LDA B #5      5 LINES TO BE PRINTED
00145 00B1 D7 06      STA B COUNT
00146 00B3 20 18      BRA SETPAB      INIT LINCNT
00147      "
00148 00B5 C6 05      GROUP LDA B #5      5 LINES TO BE PRINTED
00149 00B7 07 04      STA B CO NT

```

```

00150 0089 C6 00      LDA B #13    SKIP 13 LINES OF TEXT
00151 00B8 BD 2E      BSR FALL    SKIP LINE
00152 00BD BD 711E    JSR PCRLF
00153 00C0 7A 0005    DEC LINCNT
00154 00C3 26 0C      DME PRINTS   NOT TIME FOR MARGIN
00155 00C5 C6 04      LDA B 06    6 MARGIN LINES
00156 00C7 BD 711E    JSR PCRLF  OUTPUT C.R.-L.F.
00157 00CA 5A          DEC 9
00158 00CB 26 FA      DME HARDIN
00159 00CD C6 04      BETPAB LDA B #10    PRINT 10 DEEP
00160 00CF 07 05      BTA B LINCNT INZ LINE COUNT
00161 00D1 BD 1E      PRINTS DSR PRINT  PRINT PARTIAL LINE
00162 00B3 DF 03      STX XSAVE
00163 00B5 BD 12      BSR FALLS  SKIP NEXT 5 LINES OF TEXT
00164 00D7 BD 18      BSR PRINT  PRINT PARTIAL LINE
00165 00DP BD 0E      BSR FALLS  SKIP NEXT 5 LINES OF TEXT
00166 00BP BD 14      BSR PRINT  FINISH PRINTING LINE
00167 00D9 BD 711E    JSR PCRLF END OF LINE
00168 00E0 DE 03      LBX XSAVE
00169 00E2 7A 0006    DEC COUNT
00170 00E5 27 CE      DEG GROUP
00171 00E7 20 EB      DRA PRINTS
00173
00174
00175
00176 00E9 C6 05      FALLS LUA B #5    SKIP 5 LINES OF TEXT
00177 00EB BD 2A      FALL BSR FINDER SEARCH FOR C.R.
00178 00ED 5A          DEC B
00179 00EE 26 FB      DME FALL
00180 00F0 39          RTS
Q JBI
00182
00183
00184
00185 00F1 C6 1B      PRINT LDA B 027  26 CHARACTERS (CRT-HEX 17)
00186 00F3 08          INX
00187 00F4 5A          PRINTA DEC D
00188 00F5 27 IF      BEO FIND1 SEARCH FOR C.R.
00189 00F7 A6 00      LDA A 0X
00190 00F9 B1 5E      CMP A 07  LOOK FOR END
00191 00FB 26 08      DME CAPR
00192 00FD BD 07      EXIT LDA A #7  BELL
00193 00FF BD 7112    JSR PUTCHR
00194 0102 70 0058    JMP MAIL
00195 0105 91 02      CKPR CMP A VM  LOOK FOR O-P INT CHARACTER
00196 0107 27 04      BEG OUTSPC
00197 0109 81 0D      CMP A #400
00198 0109 26 03      DME SKSPC
00199 0109 86 20      OUTSPC LDA A #420
00200 010F 09          DEX
00201 0110 08          SKOPC INX
00202 0111 BD 7112    JSR PUTCHR
00203 0114 20 DE      DRA PRINTA
00204
00205
00206
00207
00208 0116 09          FIND1 DEX
00209 0117 86 0D      FINDCR LDA A #400
00210 0119 08          FIND INX
00211 011A A1 00      CMP A 0X
00212 011C 26 FB      DME FIND
00213 011E 39          RTS
00214
00215 011F 4E          ERROR0 FCC  'NO SUCH FILE'
00216 012B 04          FCC 4
00217 012C 49          PRIVATE FCC  'IS THIS A PRIVATE FILE?'
00218 0143 04          FCC 4
00219 0144 000A          LISTII FDD $D0A
00220 0146 4D          FCC 4
00221 0154 04          FCC 4
00222 0155 52          BUFST EQU 8
00223 0155 52          FCC 4
00224
TOTAL ERROR0 00000

```

SYMBOL TABLE									
DUFSI	0155	CPR	0105	CLOSE	0055	COUNI	0006	ERROR	0028
ERKDR	011F	EXIT	00FB	FALL	00EB	FALLS	00E9	FCRL	7740
FIND	011V	FINAL	0116	FINDCR	0117	FMS	7806	FMSCLS	7803
DECFL	7127	GROUP	00B5	IME	0034	INEEE	E1AC	LASELS	0082
LINCNT	0005	LIST	00A9	LISTIT	0144	MAIL	005B	MAIL1	0087
MAIL2	00B5	HARDIN	00C7	MEMEND	6FFF	HEXTCH	0047	NLHNE	0097
OK	0037	OUT	002E	OUTIN	0031	OUTSPC	010D	PCRLF	711E
PPATAI	E07E	PRINT	00F1	PRINTS	00B1	PRINTA	00F4	PRIVATE	012C
PROMP	0069	PUTCHR	7112	SETEXT	712D	SETPAG	00C0	SKSPC	0110
SYMBS	0067	TOM	0007	VN	0002	WARM5	7103	XSAVE	0003

### MODEMS

Reprint from '6800 BITS'  
Chicago Area 6800 Newsletter  
Phil Schuman, Editor

Several questions have come up since we ran the story about the 'Kansas City Phone Patch'. People wanted to know, why they could not access the CBBS? To answer this, and probably several other questions about modems, let's start at the beginning.

What is a modem? This is a contraction for the name 'modulator/demodulator'. What are these animals? These animals were created to transmit data over common carrier circuits

such as phone lines and microwave. It is easy to transmit data over wires, but what do you do if it is to be sent over radio, such as microwave? The answer is to convert the voltage pulses into pulses of tones, this is what the modem does.

A set of standard tone frequencies and protocol have been established by the Bell System and everyone else (for the most part) remains compatible. In addition to these tones, the connections to the modem are standard also; RS-232. Now the question is how to hook up the terminal you have to the computer at the other end of the world. A modem is placed at each point: a good start. Between the modems we place a microwave link. Now the question, how do we connect to the modems at each end? Well that depends, who is calling who. For the most part, the terminal (and you) will be placing the 'call' to the computer. And thus are referred to as the 'originator'. The computer at the other end will therefore be called the 'answer'.

Next question. How many wires connect to your terminal using the RS-232 protocol? Well, there is; transmit data and it's ground, receive data and it's ground. In this case the grounds are really only one, but logically both are needed. We therefore logically need 4 wires; hence we will need 4 tones. Logical high and logical low for both directions; to and from the terminal. This is called 'full-duplex' because data can travel in both directions at the same time.

As far as the tones are concerned, for the 'originate mode' they are:

Receive:  
1270 mark/logic high  
1070 space/logic low

Transmit:  
2225 mark/logic high  
2025 space/logic low

For the modem at the other end operating in 'answer' mode, the tone frequencies are mirror images of the ones above.

In addition, for those using a phone line, the answer modem will send an 'answerback' tone to signal that the connection has been established. This tone is 2025 hz, and will also disable the echo suppressors on the phone circuit. The phone lines only send voices one way at a time...in case you did not know that, and the tone will disable that feature. O.K. what is this animal called? It is the Bell System 103 modem configuration.

This can only transmit data up to about 600 baud, before the bandwidth is not capable of switching at the proper baud rate.

What can be done now, is to drop one set of tones, and use the phone line one-way at a time; half-duplex. This form of transmission can handle up to 1200 baud, but more intelligence is needed to control the modems. The tone frequencies for the Bell System 202 modem configuration are: 1200 and 2200 with 2025 for answerback.

The KCPP uses the SWTPC AC-30 for it's tone generation, and the tones for the AC-30 are:

1200 and 2400

They are only half-duplex and do not fit in with any of the data transmissions standards.

I hope that this has proven informative to those that were wondering about modems and how they work or are used. Most of the systems that 'talk', use the Bell 103 standard at 300 baud or 30 cps.

### RS-232 Connectors

For those who would like to change over to the more common RS-232 connectors, here is the pin configuration and their uses. Logic levels (high/low) are represented by either +12v or -12v. Actually the voltages may be in the range of 3 to 25v. Most signals are represented by being ON with a positive (+) voltage and OFF with a minus (-) voltage.

Each pin has a two character EIA code, along with a common mnemonic. Most of the pins will be listed first, and then a condensed version of those that are actually needed. Please keep in mind, that this interface was designed to connect a terminal to a modem.

1. AA FG Chassis Ground
2. BA TD Trans Data from Terminal
3. BB RD Rec Data from Computer
4. CA RTS Request to send
5. CB CTS Clear to Send
6. CC DSR Data Set Ready
7. AB SG Signal Ground
8. CF DCD Data Carrier Detect  
Modem tones receive
9. +12v for testing
10. -12v for testing
15. DB TC Transmit Clock
17. DD RC Receive Clock
20. CD DTR Data Terminal Ready  
Terminal is 'on-line'
22. CE RI Ring Indicate

Phone is ringing  
24. DA ETC External Trans Clock  
25 CN Busy  
Phone is dialing out

Here are the pins that are needed for most terminal configurations.

2. Trans data to Modem/CPU
3. Receive data from CPU
7. Ground

In addition the following pins may have to be jumpered, to force the terminal into a 'Ready'; 5, 6, 8, 20. Clocking may be tied to the following:

17. Clock from CPU into terminal
24. Clock from terminal into CPU

## NEW PRODUCTS

### TSC BASIC for the 6800

Technical Systems Consultants, Inc. is pleased to announce the availability of the TSC BASIC for the 6800. The program resides in 9.5K of memory and is currently the fastest floating point BASIC interpreter available for any 8 bit micro. Typical speed increases of 2 to 10 times have been observed in comparison to other popular BASIC's, with some cases up to 75 times! All of the standard BASIC statements and functions are supported as well as many extended capabilities. Both floating point and string variables are provided with strings being fully dynamic and unrestricted in size. Variable names may be either the standard types or double letter combinations allowing limited variable name mnemonics.

Other features include single and double dimensioned arrays. Array references support subscripts of 0 unlike several other 6800 BASIC's available. Array size, loop nesting, subroutine nesting and string length are only limited by the amount of user memory available in the machine. A tremendous enhancement is provided by the 'IF..THEN..ELSE' construct. The 'ELSE' clause promotes a more structured type programming style, thus improving readability and conciseness of the program. The input buffer allows lines as long as 127 characters to be entered to take advantage of the complex statement structures permitted with this statement. Other features include the HEX function which allows hexadecimal number representation while PI provides an easy reference to this often used constant. The floating point arithmetic done by BASIC is performed to seven digits accuracy internally, with all answers printed to six. The dynamic range of the numbers is in the range of 10 raised to the plus or minus 32th power.

Overall, TSC BASIC is a very fast and powerful BASIC. It is easily adapted to run in any 6800 system having at least 12K of user RAM available from location 0000. A system with 16K or more of memory is recommended for serious applications. The BASIC is available on Kansas City Standard cassette along with a complete user's manual for \$39.95. No source listing is available. A full disk file version of TSC BASIC which will run under the FLEX™ disk operating system will be available shortly. The product is available from stock and may be ordered from Technical Systems Consultants, Inc., Box 2574, West Lafayette, Indiana, 47906, or call (317) 463-2502.

#### I. General

Memory required: 9.5K, 16K recommended  
Arithmetic precision: 6 digits, 7 internally  
Dynamic range: approx. 10E+37 to 10E-38  
String storage: Fully dynamic, no limit to size  
Array storage: 1 and 2 dimensional, no size limit  
Nesting: No limit to 80\$UB & FOR nests  
Multiple statements per line: With : or ;  
Input line buffer: 127 characters  
Variable types: Floating point and String  
Variable names: Single letter, 2 letters, or letter+number

#### II. Commands

CLEAR	BONT	EXIT	LIST
LOAD	NEW	RUN	SAVE

#### III. Statements

DATA	DEF	DIM	END	FOR	GSUB
GOTO	IF..THEN	IF..GOTO	IF..ELSE	INPUT LINE	INPUT
LET	MEAT	ON..GOSUB	ON..GOTO	POKE	PRINT
READ	REMARK	RESTORE	RETURN	STEP	STOP

#### IV. Arithmetic Functions

ABS	ATM	COS	EXP	FRE	INT
LOG	PEEK	POS	RND	SGN	SIN
SPC	SMR	TAB	TAN	USR	PI

#### V. String Functions

ASC	CHR\$	WEX	LEFT\$	LEN	MIDS
RIGHT\$	STR\$	VAL			

**SEMICONDUCTOR  
Memory Primer**Don Kinzer  
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As one might guess from the preceding paragraph PC board layout is extremely critical. Indeed, a wirewrap prototype is almost useless because of transients. Another critical area is power supply bypassing. The dynamic RAMS draw almost no quiescent (DC) current. Power is consumed at and shortly after the transitions of the three clocks RAS, CAS, and WRITE. The transient currents on the 3 power supply lines and ground may exceed 100 mA on each chip for 50 to 100 ns duration. These current demands must be met by the local bypassing capacitors in order to reduce  $L \frac{di}{dt}$  voltage drop (noise) on the relatively long supply traces and their associated parasitic inductance.

The 4116 memory requires that each of the 128 internal rows (represented by the seven address bits at RAS) be refreshed at least every 2 ms. However, since the chips consume power only when cycling it is desirable to keep refreshes to a minimum to conserve power.

Since the 6800 does not access memory during  $\emptyset_p$  it is very natural to perform refreshes at that time. Using this technique the refresh is said to be transparent as it does not affect processor speed by delaying accesses. The refresh is also synchronous because it is synchronized to the processor.

Referring again to the schematic of Figure 8, the oscillator composed of  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $Q_1$ ,  $C_1$ , and U7E clocks the counter U10 at about 1 MHz. This causes the carry out to go high after 15 cycles (assuming 0 initially) or about 15 microseconds. 128

refresh cycles will occur in just under 2 ms worst case, meeting the refresh requirements while keeping the refreshes to a minimum.

Refresh pending is sampled on every  $\overline{\theta_2}$  ( $\theta_1$ ) by U6A in order to guarantee set up and hold times on the REFRESH flip flop U6B (thereby avoiding glitches) which is clocked by  $\theta_1$  ( $\overline{\theta_2}$ ). As soon as REFRESH goes true the refresh time counter is cleared to begin timing the next 15 microsecond cycle. Concurrently, a pulse is started down the delay line by U6B via U8B and U9A,B. Also, the REF ENABLE line is asserted on the 3242 (U3) causing the current contents of the refresh address register (7 bits) to be multiplexed onto it's  $A_{6-0}$  outputs which are applied directly to the RAMs.

When the pulse gets to the 40 ns tap of the delay line U8C will cause RAS to be asserted on every RAM chip. In this manner every chip is refreshed simultaneously at a given row address.

As the pulse reaches the 200 ns tap the REFRESH flip flop is reset via U7G. This action de-asserts RAS and also increments the refresh address internal to the 3242 via the COUNT line. Simultaneously, a rising edge is injected into the delay line to return it to its idle state which completes the refresh cycle.

There are many seemingly minor details that if heeded will produce a good, reliable dynamic memory system. Ignoring the details will generate more headaches than the designer bargained for.

The first, and perhaps most important, consideration is power distribution which was briefly touched upon earlier. The  $V_{DD}$

(+12) supply sources most of the current required by the 4116. Recalling the need for distributed low inductance capacitance, the most logical procedure is to opt for a multi-layer circuit board. The center two layers would be  $V_{DD}$  and  $V_{SS}$  (ground). This provides both a good ground plane and a good low resistance path for the  $V_{DD}$  supply. The two parallel layers also provide a surprising amount of distributed capacitance. Every 4116 should also have its own high quality low ESR, low inductance capacitor (such as ceramic) in the .01  $\mu$ F to .1  $\mu$ F range. These should be located as close as physically possible to the RAM chip to reduce the parasitic inductance.

The other two supplies  $V_{CC}$  (+5) and  $V_{BB}$  (-5) should be run in a matrix fashion on the outer board layers using the widest possible runs. Each chip should have its own bypass capacitor on each of these supplies also, again as close as possible to the chip. Additionally, all of the supplies should have several bulk bypass capacitors of 5 to 10  $\mu$ F distributed about the board. Again the order of importance of the supplies is  $V_{DD} > V_{BB} > V_{CC}$  and the bulk capacitance should vary accordingly.

The next area of concern is the logic inputs to each memory chip (RAS, CAS, WRITE,  $A_{6-0}$ ,  $D_{in}$ ). These signals must be kept from ringing as much as possible. Overshoot can cause all kinds of problems ranging from data loss to chip destruction. The way to keep ringing to a minimum is to keep parasitic inductance low by keeping runs as short and direct as possible. Furthermore, adding series damping resistors close to the drivers in the 10 ohm to 60 ohm range will help. The best value is determined by experimentation.

The clock signals (RAS, CAS, and WRITE) must be generated glitch-free and the asynchronous inputs ( $A_{6-0}$ ,  $D_{in}$ ) must not be allowed to change within the set up and hold times specified. To minimize cross talk between RAS and CAS they should be run at right angles to one another, i.e. one on the front layer, one on the back.

An error which is commonly found in memory systems is that the designer used the system reset signal from the bus to reset the synchronous elements (flip flops, counters, etc.) in the controller circuit. While this appears to be the logical thing to do it allows a front panel reset, which is asynchronous with respect to the controller, to abort an access or refresh cycle which will almost always cause data loss. Once a cycle is begun it must be taken to completion.

This requirement constrains the designer to either use an on-board power-on-reset or to design the sequential logic so that it is self starting from power up. Furthermore, the bus signals which initiate a cycle must be latched so that their premature removal will not abnormally terminate the cycle.

The bias supply  $V_{BB}$  is used to bias the substrate of the RAM chips. This voltage increases the breakdown potential of the MOS transistors and has other benefits as well. Since at power up the  $V_{DD}$  and  $V_{CC}$  supplies may overshoot steps must be taken to limit overshoot (i.e. clamping) and the supplies should be sequenced on and off such that  $V_{BB}$  is applied first and removed last with respect to  $V_{DD}$  and  $V_{CC}$ .

Many memory systems include circuitry for data error detection using parity. To implement this an extra RAM chip is added to

each row to retain the parity bits. As each word is written to, the parity of the data is generated and the result written to a corresponding address in the parity RAM. On a read the parity of the read data is again generated and compared to the contents of the parity RAM at that location. If they don't match an interrupt is generated to the CPU. It is also possible to implement error correction in a memory system such that errors of a certain type are automatically corrected on the fly.

In summary, we have seen that there are several features which characterize any type of storage medium. Furthermore, we have through a typical design example seen how to implement a memory system using the most misunderstood and most feared memory element, the dynamic RAM.

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# THE TERMINAL-



Until recently all terminal functions were designed with hardware logic. A relatively simple terminal with limited functions could easily require as many as sixty or more integrated circuits. More sophisticated terminals with a moderate amount of intelligence could easily have over a hundred IC's. All this has now changed. With the introduction of MOS video controller circuits it has become possible to design a terminal using a controller and a microprocessor that will perform almost any imaginable function with software. The CT-82 has one hundred twenty-eight separate functions—all of which are software driven. It contains fewer parts than most "dumb" terminals.

The normal screen format is 16 lines (20 lines selectable) with 82 characters per line. This is an upper-lower case display with a 7 x 12 dot matrix. The high resolution characters are displayed on a Motorola Data Products M-2000 series monitor with a green P-31 phosphor. This monitor has a 12 MHz video bandwidth and dynamic focus circuits to insure a crisp well focused display over the entire face of the tube. An alternate all capital letter format is available (optional) with 16, 20 or 22 lines and 92 characters per line. The lower case portion of this character set has graphic symbols. In this mode the lines may be moved together to give a solid figure or line. Direct cursor addressing combined with the plotting capability makes it possible to indicate the end points of a line and then to automatically draw a line between them.

Both the monitor and the character generator have sockets provided for alternate material in the form of an EPROM. This

makes it possible to have special terminal functions, or character sets that can be switched in under computer control.

The CT-82 has its own internal editing functions. This allows inserting and deleting lines and characters, erasing quadrants, or lines; doing rolls, scrolls, slides and other similar functions. The CT-82 can block transmit completed material to the computer, or output material to its own remote printer through the built-in parallel printer I/O port. The terminal can be programmed to operate at any system baud rate that is normally used from 50 to 38,400. The baud rate may be changed at any time within this range with a software command.

The cursor position, type of cursor, cursor ON-OFF and blinking are all provided. A command is provided to print control characters and also to turn on and off a tape punch, or tape reader. Protected fields, shift inversion, dual intensity and many other miscellaneous features make the CT-82 one of the most flexible terminals available.

A fifty-six key alphanumeric keyboard plus a twelve key cursor pad is standard. A numeric pad may be substituted for the cursor pad (optional). Connection to the terminal is through a standard DB-25 connector and RS-232 signal levels. The CT-82 operates from 100, 115, 220, or 240 VAC at 50 to 60 Hz. It weighs 20 lbs, and is a compact 18" wide, 10" high and 18" deep.

#### CT-82 Intelligent Terminal

assembled and tested . . . \$795.00 F.O.B. San Antonio



SOUTHWEST TECHNICAL PRODUCTS CORPORATION  
219 W. Rhapsody  
San Antonio, Texas 78216

(512) 344-0241

# THE EDITOR-

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**LINE POINTER** —Now you understand why the CT-82 has 82 columns. The left two columns are used for a line pointer, which indicates the line of text being edited.

**FILE WRAPAROUND**—"THE EDITOR" may make multiple passes over the file being edited without restarting the editor.

**AUTOMATIC CARRIAGE RETURN**—The last word in a line will automatically be started on the next line if it will not fit in the space remaining on the line.

**SIMPLE COMMANDS**—Commands consists of a single letter, or a key press on the cursor pad. No complicated format to be learned and remembered.

**MULTIPLE COMMANDS and REPEATS**—Command line may have more than one command. "THE EDITOR" will execute command strings sequentially. Repeat function allows changes in a string through the text file.

**SOURCE TEXT TABS**—Tab stops appropriate for source text input may be set to operate from the space bar, or any other key.

**SHIFT INVERSION**—The keyboard may be set to produce either capital, or lower case letters when shift is used.

**SCREEN POSITIONING**—Scroll up, scroll down, line pointer up, line pointer down, home file, top of memory, bottom of memory, move relative to pointed line and form feed are provided.

"THE EDITOR" is available only for Southwest Technical Products computer systems using the CT-82 and running under FLEX-5®, or FLEX-8® operating systems. It may be used to edit any files, or programs compatible with the DOS, except binary files. Edited files are compatible with the TSC Text Processing program. The combination makes a powerful and inexpensive word processing system.

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(512) 344-0241

## LOCATE

A Utility Command Program for FLEX™

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Users of the SWTPC 6800 disk operating system, "Flex", written by Technical Systems Consultants (TSC) of W. Lafayette, Ind., are accustomed to the versatility and convenience of this fine software. It makes the use of the computer much more satisfying than operation with tape. The Flex system incorporates on its master disk a large number of "utility command" routines for management of the disk files which the user may have stored on his disks. Among these subroutines is the disk command, SAVE, which permits the user to transfer to disk from memory any binary program which he may have developed in RAM. Such a program is readily and quickly moved from disk back into RAM by entering its file name on the user's terminal. However, the Flex system provides no way to find either the locations in RAM at which the previously stored program begins and ends or its starting address for execution. After recording many programs the user has very likely forgotten what memory locations he used. An ability to find this information from the disk file itself is often very convenient.

LOCATE is such a program. Stored on the master disk with other command routines, it can be called at any time to display on the terminal the address in RAM at which the first and the last bytes of a program will be located and the address at which execution will begin. For example, if one wants to know the RAM addresses associated with a binary file named "Test" located somewhere on disk number one he simply types "LOCATE,1.TEST" and obtains the following output on his terminal:

LOCATE,1.TEST

```
PGM. STORAGE BEGINS AT 0100
PGM. STORAGE ENDS AT 1234
STARTING ADDRESS = 0200
```

The default file extension assumed in LOCATE is .BIN. Other types of binary files, such as command and system files, can be located by adding the appropriate extension after the file name in the call for the LOCATE program. BASIC and ASCII text files can not be located because they do not include memory address data.

Table 1 is a listing of the program, as obtained from the TSC assembler. Extensive use is made of the "Get" and the binary "File Loader" routines already contained in the Flex file management system, each having been modified to count successive bytes in the stored program

rather than to transfer bytes to RAM. The "Locate.Cmd" program operates from a block of memory beginning at \$7600 within the Flex master program, where most of the already supplied command routines also operate when they are called.

To understand the program itself one needs to know the format of binary files on disk. This is explained in the "Advanced Programmer's Guide", written by TSC and available from SWTPC. A binary record begins with a first byte containing a start-of-record indicator, 02. This is followed by the most and the least significant bytes of the load address in RAM at which the program will start. The next byte gives the number of data bytes which will follow in the record, after which the program data bytes themselves occur. On the last record occupied by the program the first byte is \$16, indicating that what follows is the transfer address at which program execution will begin. The ending address to be used in RAM is not recorded in the disk file but is computed by LOCATE as it reads through the file, incrementally adding the total number of bytes in the program to the initial memory address.

Bytes are read from the disk by the file-management subroutine here called "FMS1". It returns in the A-register one byte of the file and an error signal, if one occurs. One such signal is an end-of-file marker byte, 08, which signals the subroutine that all information recorded in the file has been read. When this occurs, FMS1 returns control to the main program which begins at START, not to the LOADER subroutine. This is done by using two PUL A instructions simply to change the stack pointer so that a RTS instruction will return control to the previous program's subroutine jump, not to the subroutine which just previously caused entry into FMS1. This accounts for the absence of a RTS instruction at the end of LOADER.

The reader can easily assemble the "Locate" program using the listing given in the table. If he asks for a binary object file to be put on disk drive number one, for example, he may next use Flex to change the name of the new "locate" binary object file to 1.LOCATE.CMD . Then he can copy this file from drive number one to number zero if drive zero contains his collection of Flex user command programs. Now he should find it easy to obtain memory location information directly from the disk on which his programs are stored.

#### SYMBOL TABLE

ERROR	71BD	FLAG	7603	FMS1	7525	INIT	7609	INIT1	7606
JUMP	761F	LDR1	7625	LDR2	765D	LDR3	7689	LDR4	767E
LDR5	7672	LOADER	7622	MSG1	7698	MSG2	76AF	MSG3	76C6
OPEN	758A	OUT4HS	EOC8	PCRLF	711E	PSTRIN	7118	RETURN	7617
SCRATC	70B3	START	7600	TADDR	709F	VN	7602	WARMS	7103
XSAVE	7604								

```
*****
* LOCATE, a utility command program
* for FLEX to find the beginning
* and ending addresses in memory,
* plus the program starting addr.,
* of a binary file on disk.
* The program is based on "GET"
* and "FILE LOADER" routines in
* FLEX, modified.
* Dec. 8, 1978, by R.L.Pigford
*****
```

			NAM	LOCATE
*				
*			* System equates	
*				
7118			PSTRING EQU	\$7118 cr/lf + print string
711E			PCRLF EQU	\$711E
EOC8			OUT4HS EQU	\$EOC8
758A			OPEN EQU	\$758A
70B3			SCRATCH EQU	\$70B3
7103			WARMS EQU	\$7103 return to FLEX
7525			FMS1 EQU	\$7525
709F			TADDR EQU	\$709F transfer address in FLEX
71BD			ERROR EQU	\$71BD
*				
*				
7600			ORG	\$7600
7600	20 04		START BRA	INIT1
7602	01		VN FCB	1 version 1 of program
7603			FLAG RMB	1
7604			XSAVE RMB	2
7606	BD 711E		INIT1 JSR	PCRLF start with cr/lf
7609	86 00		INIT LDA A	#0
760B	BD 758A		JSR OPEN	get file spec.; open for read
760E	25 07		BCS RETURN	return to FLEX if through
7610	&C 70B3		INC SCRATCH	
7613	8D 0D		BSR LOADER	go to subroutine to read data
7615	20 F2		BRA INIT	
7617	F6 70B3		RETURN LDA B	SCRATCH
761A	27 03		BEQ JUMP	
761C	7E 7103		JMP WARMS	return to FLEX
761F	7E 71BD		JUMP JMP	ERROR
*				
*			* Abbreviated binary loader routine to count memory	
*				
7622	7F 7603		LOADER CLR	FLAG set flag to permit output of
7625	BD 7525		LDR1 JSR	FMS1 start addr.; get first byte
7628	81 02		CMP A #2	is it start-of-record indicator?
7629	27 31		BEQ LDR2	branch if yes
762C	81 16		CMP A #\$16	is it transfer-addr. indicator?
762E	26 F5		BNE LDR1	if no, return for another byte
7630	CE 76AF		LDX #MSG2	point to end-mem. message
7633	BD 7118		JSR PSTRING	print end addr. message
7636	FE 7604		LDX XSAVE	get end mem. addr.+1
7639	09		DEX	correct it
763A	FF 7604		STX XSAVE	save it
763D	CE 7604		IDX #XSAVE	point to end mem. addr.
7640	BD EOC8		JSR OUT4HS	print it

7643	BD	7525		JSR	FMS1	get transfer addr., msb
7646	B7	709F		STA A	TADDR	
7649	BD	7525		JSR	FMS1	get transfer addr., lsb
764C	B7	70A0		STA A	TADDR+1	
764F	CE	76C6		IDX	#MSG3	point to starting addr. msg.
7652	BD	7118		JSR	PSTRING	print it
7655	CE	709F		LDX	#TADDR	
7658	BD	EOC8		JSR	OUT4HS	print starting address
765B	20	C8		BRA	LDR1	
765D	BD	7525	LDR2	JSR	FMS1	get begin addr., msb
7660	36			PSH A		
7661	BD	7525		JSR	FMS1	get begin addr., lsb
7664	33			PUL B		
7665	B7	7605		STA A	XSAVE+1	store lsb
7668	F7	7604		STA B	XSAVE	store msb
766B	7D	7603		TST	FLAG	test for first time through
766E	27	02		BEQ	LDR5	branch if yes for print
7670	20	0C		BRA	LDR4	skip print
7672	CE	7698	LDR5	LDX	#MSG1	point to begin addr. msg.
7675	BD	7118		JSR	PSTRING	
7678	CE	7604		IDX	#XSAVE	point to begin addr.
767B	BD	EOC8		JSR	OUT4HS	print addr.
767E	86	01	LDR4	lda A	#1	set flag to suppress begin-
7680	B7	7603		STA A	FLAG	addr. print
7683	BD	7525		JSR	FMS1	get no. data bytes in sector
7686	16			TAB		store it in B-reg.
7687	27	9C		BEQ	LDR1	
7689	BD	7525	LDR3	JSR	FMS1	get a data byte
768C	FE	7604		LDX	XSAVE	get byte counter
768F	08			INX		increment it
7690	FF	7604		STX	XSAVE	save new value
7693	5A			DEC B		reduce word count
7694	26	F3		BNE	LDR3	return for next word
7696	20	8D		BRA	LDR1	return for next sector
*						
* output strings						
*						
7698	50		MSG1	FCC	/PGM. STORAGE BEGINS AT /	
76A0	04			FCB	4	
76AF	50		MSG2	FCC	/PGM. STORAGE ENDS AT /	
76C5	04			FCB	4	
7606	53		MSG3	FCC	/STARTING ADDRESS = /	
76DC	04			FCB	4	
*						
			END		START	

NO ERROR(S) DETECTED

## A 20 MA PRINTER WITH SWTPC

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Here is a convenient way to interface a 20 mA. printer, such as the Model 33, to a SWTPC computer. It is assumed that the system uses the MP-C control board to interface an RS-232 video terminal.

The jumper installed between holes TI and TC on the MP-C board is

removed, and the printer is connected to holes TI (keyboard), T0 (print mechanism), and TC (common). (If the printer has no keyboard, leave the jumper installed.) The printer may be used simultaneously with the video terminal, and placed in local mode when hard copy is not desired.

It is often useful to be able to disable output to the printer during the course of a program, for instance when prompts are needed. The accompanying program NOPRNT allows two ways of accomplishing this. Three subroutines are provided that are identical to INEEE, OUTEEE and PDATA1, except that characters will appear only on the CRT.

Alternatively, the PTROON and PTROFF subroutines may be used alone to enable and disable the printer, respectively. Note that the printer's keyboard is not disabled by PTROFF, and will be operative whenever the printer is on-line.

For these routines to operate, a simple hardware modification is required to the MP-C board. This modification is detailed in the listing. It is simple to make, and in no way affects normal system operation.

These routines may be assembled to reside anywhere desired, whether in ROM or as part of a user program.

```
00010          NAM    NOPRNT

00040      * PRINTER IS CONNECTED TO 20 MA. SERIAL OUTPUT
00050      * OF MP-C CONTROL INTERFACE, (PINS TO AND TC).
00060      * MP-C BOARD MODIFIED AS FOLLOWS:
00070      * (1) LIFT PIN 1 OF IC-6, AND JUMPER TO PIN
00080      *     13 (PB3) OF THE PIA, IC-1. INSTALL
00090      *     10K PULLUP BETWEEN THIS POINT AND +5V.
00100      * (2) MOVE END OF R4 FROM IC-5, PIN 11, TO
00110      *     IC-6, PIN 2.
00120      * SINCE PB3 IS NORMALLY PROGRAMMED AS AN INPUT,
00130      * IT IS IN TRI-STATE, AND THE PULL-UP ON PIN 1
00140      * OF IC-6 ENABLES THAT GATE TO ALLOW NORMAL
00150      * PRINTER OPERATION. WHEN NINCH, NOUTCH OR
00160      * NOUTST IS CALLED, THE PTROFF ROUTINE TAKES
00170      * PB3 LOW, DISABLING PRINTER OUTPUT.
```

```
00190          OPT    0
```

```
00210          * EXTERNAL EQUATES
```

```
00230  E1AC    INEEE  EQU    *E1AC    CHARACTER INPUT
00240  E1D1    OUTEEE EQU    $E1D1    CHARACTER OUTPUT
```

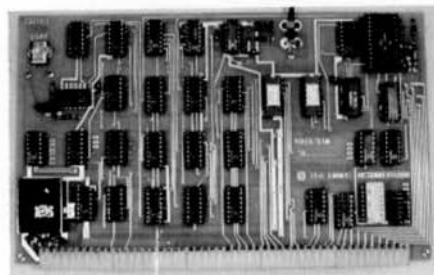
00250	E07E	PDATA1	EQU	\$E07E	CHAR. STRING OUTPUT
00260	8006	PIADB	EQU	\$8006	HP-C PIA, SIDE B
00270	A04A	XTEMP	EQU	\$A04A	TEMP. STORAGE FOR X
00290	0000		ORG	0	
00310		***			
00320		* NON-PRINTING SUBSTITUTE FOR INEEE			
00330		* JSR OR BSR HERE TO INPUT A CHAR.			
00340		***			
00350	0000 BD 21	NINCH	BSR	PTROFF	DISABLE PRINTER
00360	0002 BD E1AC		JSR	INEEE	CHARACTER INPUT
00370	0005 20 OC		BRA	PTRON	ENABLE PRINTER & RTN
00390		***			
00400		* NON-PRINTING SUBSTITUTE FOR OUTEEE			
00410		* JSR OR BSR HERE TO OUTPUT A CHAR.			
00420		***			
00430	0007 BD 1A	NOUTCH	BSR	PTROFF	DISABLE PRINTER
00440	0009 BD E1D1		JSR	OUTEEE	CHARACTER OUTPUT
00450	000C 20 05		BRA	PTRON	ENABLE PRINTER & RETURN
00460		***			
00470		* NON-PRINTING SUBSTITUTE FOR PDATA1			
00480		* JSR OR BSR HERE TO OUTPUT A STRING			
00490		***			
00500	000E BD 13	NOUTST	BSR	PTROFF	DISABLE PRINTER
00510	0010 BD E07E		JSR	PDATA1	OUTPUT STRING
00520		***			
00530		* JSR OR BSR HERE TO RE-ENABLE PRINTER			
00540		***			
00550	0013 FF A04A	PTRON	STX	XTEMP	SAVE X
00560	0016 7F 8007		CLR	PIADB+1	TO ADDRESS DDRB
00570	0019 CE 0734		LDX	#\$734	
00580	001C FF 8006		STX	PIADB	PB3 = INPUT (TRI-ST.) AGAIN
00590	001F FE A04A		LDX	XTEMP	RESTORE X
00600	0022 39		RTS		RETURN TO CALLING PROGRAM
00610		***			
00620		* JSR OR BSR HERE TO DISABLE PRINTER			
00630		***			
00640	0023 FF A04A	PTROFF	STX	XTEMP	SAVE X
00650	0026 36		PSH A		SAVE CHAR. TO BE OUTPUT
00660	0027 7F 8007		CLR	PIADB+1	TO ADDRESS DDRB
00670	002A CE 0F34		LDX	#\$F34	
00680	002D FF 8006		STX	PIADB	MAKE PB3 AN OUTPUT
00690	0030 FE A04A		LDX	XTEMP	RESTORE X
00700	0033 86 F7		LDA A	#\$F7	
00710	0035 B4 8006		AND A	PIADB	
00720	0038 B7 8006		STA A	PIADB	FORCE PB3 LOW
00730	003B 32		PUL A		RETRIEVE CHAR.
00740	003C 39		RTS		
00760		END			

TOTAL ERRORS 00000

ENTER PASS : 1P,2P,2L,2T

## A VIDEO BOARD & IMPROVED MONITOR for the S-50 BUS

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Among the video boards for the S-50 buss, the Thomas Instrumentation unit\* Figure 1, offers an economical terminal capability for the experimenter. This board can be implemented for less than \$100 and has excellent capabilities. For those unfamiliar with this video board, it provides a switch selectable 1K RAM memory which can be addressed by the CPU and is also used to refresh the video screen simultaneously. The screen format is 16 lines of 64 characters. The 1K RAM may be placed anywhere in memory with the on-board DIP switch. Interesting views of the memory contents during symbol table sorts and calculations can be obtained by using the 1K video memory to overlay program RAM location where the action is occurring.

While the Thomas Instrumentation video display is not "glitch-less" when the memory is addressed, the minor "noise" on the screen when the display is changed is not objectionable. The video display operates at an equivalent baud rate of about 17K baud while scrolling. Obviously, single page write times are much faster, since the entire page must be rewritten in memory for each added line while scrolling. Single page write rates are approximately 50,000 characters/sec or 20 MS per page, so updating the video display is rapid!

For monitor use, the Video RAM can be placed at any convenient spot. C000-C3FF HEX was selected, though 8000-9000 HEX could have been used also, if complete addressing of the I/O were implemented. Suitable output routines are provided by Thomas Instrumentation, but for complete cursor control (cursor right and cursor up) minor additions to these routines are required. These output routines require only about 200 bytes of memory, so they can be easily placed in EPROM Memory on the SWTPC MPA2 board. It is also necessary to use 6 bytes of A000 RAM memory to store the video pointer, 2 flags and the blink time count for terminal - type operation of the video RAM board. For convenience, the OUTEEE routine at E1D1 should be modified to include these output routines, and a keyboard, to substitute for the terminal, should also be incorporated for the INEEE (E1AC) routine. Thus several revisions of the SWTBUG minitor listings are necessary.

This article also concerns the development of a SWTBUG compatible monitor (with expanded functions) which also contains the routines to drive the Thomas Instrumentation Video RAM board. The entry points for all MIKBUG/SWTBUG subroutines have been maintained and many of the commands have the same letter, though the input of the address data is slightly modified. The features desired in this monitor were:

- a. compatibility with SWTBUG
- b. Improved input and output switching by software control
- c. Additional commands in the monitor for often-needed functions.
- d. Video routines and independent keyboard routines to use the system without an external terminal.
- e. Complete functioning of the monitor,without the video board or keyboard I/D card, if an external

monitor is used.

- f. Operation of the monitor, from the independent keyboard, even though output or input was expected at a port where no card was present.

All of these objectives have been met, and the monitor commands, with a brief functional description, are given in TABLE I. Flow charts for the input and output routines are given in Figures 2 and 3. The character input routine was written with a separate BREAK subroutine which polls for input and returns with the carry set if any input is ready at the port or keyboard. This can be substituted for similar routines in various games and basic versions which often require modification when the I/O is changed. As can be seen, the I/O routines are rather complex because (a) there are added features; (b) they run two I/O "ports" simultaneously, independently; and (c) they automatically switch from ACIA to PLA as the port address is changed. Some of these added monitor functions are available with programs which operate through FLEX, but for other programs and tape systems, these added functions are invaluable.

As an example, a printer can be put at any port and the output vectored to that port, in addition to appearing on the video board monitor. The printer can be turned on and off by the "Q" command. The output can also be temporarily interrupted by a control S command. This also allows printing of basic program output at a selected printer port, even though the basic program was not written to output through that port.

The monitor operates both serial and parallel I/O, depending on port selection. The 4 ports from \$8000 through \$800C are assumed to be ACIA ports - no parallel card is allowed at port #1.

All ports above 800C are assumed to be PLA ports by the monitor. The B side of Port #7 was selected for the keyboard input since Part #7 is normally used for parallel output through the A side. Thus with this keyboard at port #7, and the video board, the entire 6800 system can be operated without an external terminal.

Operation without a keyboard and without the video board, requires an external terminal at port #1. When operated in this configuration, the monitor supports all commands except the display of control characters. All video and keyboard functions are ignored. If both a terminal at Port #1 and the video board/keyboard are used, the same display and control functions are maintained on both terminals independently. If the AC-30 is connected at Port #1, with or without a terminal, the operation is compatible with that of other monitors. The AC-30 can also be placed at any ACIA Port if that port is selected with the monitor "O" command.

Complete HEX format and binary type routines have been included in the monitor. This allows loading and generation of both type tapes with a suitable tape interface.

Other monitor routines are included in the monitor to ease software development and patching. Among these are the 2 byte address search, breakpoint insertion, and block memory move commands. The "I" command is the "Thompson Lister" program Ref. to display instructions as 1, 2 or 3 bytes, as appropriate. This display is most useful in checking to see if a program is correctly entered or that a change is made properly. Disk operations are supported with the jump to FLEX at \$7103 and disk boot routine. For FLEX 2.0, residing at A000, this jump address is easily modified.

Terminal-less operation has one drawback; remote terminal operation with a modem is often desired and a terminal can be used with both

modem and CPU. One approach to providing an equivalent "terminal" for use with a modem using the video board is a short monitor routine which converts the CPU/video board/key board system into a "dumb" terminal, (the "X" command). The serial output port and serial input data is displayed on the video board monitor, just as though it were a terminal.

The cursor display is caused to blink by software timing loop, but this loop is only active while the CPU is polling for input at ELAC, hence there is no constant CPU overhead to blink the cursor. The cursor is normally on and not blinking while the CPU is performing tasks not involving ELAC input. This implementation of a blinking cursor provides a reasonable compromise between visibility and CPU usage.

One word of caution is appropriate. The A\$0\$ RAM usage to support this monitor includes dedication of locations \$A\$14 through \$A\$19 for monitor use. These added bytes are used with the video and I/O routines routines and are essential. Any attempt to use these bytes in memory diagnostics or for other purposes will fail. All other usage of the \$A\$0\$ RAM is identical to that of SWTBUG.

This entire monitor requires about 1600 (decimal) bytes and is easily programmed in a single 2716 EPROM (with 430 bytes free for other routines) which can be used on the MPA2 CPU board to replace SWTBUG. The complete commented source listings for this monitor are 16 pages and too lengthy to include in an article of this type, but are available from the author.\*

In summary an approach to a compact, economical, single unit 6800 system is described. A lower cost system results, the display speed is increased and less disk top space is required. Improved monitor functions are also provided for both program development and system expansion.

\* Comment Source Listing of JOEBUG Monitor \$5.00; Copy of Object Code on supplied tape or disk or EPROM \$5.00.

		*START INPUT ROUTINE			
E1A5 8D 07		INLOOP	BSR	BREAK	OK FOR INPUT
E1A7 25 68			BGS	INCHA	GET CHARACTER
E1A9 BD E2 3B			JSR	BLINK	CURSOR
E1AC 20 F7		INEFF	BRA	JNLOOP	GO TO MAIN LOOP
		*BREAK TEST ROUTINE			
E1AE 8D 55		BREAK	BSR	SAVGET	GET PORT ADDR & TYPE
E1B0 2C 7C			BGE	PIACK	JTS A PIA
E1B2 A6 00		ACIACK	LDA A	0,X	GET STATUS
E1B4 4C			INC A		FF=00
E1B5 27 0A			BREQ	KEYCK	NO CARD IN PORT
E1B7 4A			DEC A		RESTORE A
E1B8 47			ASR A		
E1B9 24 06			BCC	KEYCK	NO INPUT
E1BB 4F	RTN3		CLR A		INPUT FROM PORT
E1BC 0D			SEC		SET FLAG FOR INPUT
E1BD FE A0 10			LDX	XTEMP	RECOVER X
E1C0 39			RTS		
		*KEYBOARD CHECK ROUTINE			
E1C1 B6 80 1F		KEYCK	LDA A	\$801F	GET STATUS
E1C4 4C			INC A		FF=00
E1C5 27 02			BREQ	RTN2	NO CARD AT PORT
E1C7 2B 03			RMI	SETFLG	MARK INPUT
E1C9 0C	RTN2		CLC		NO INPUT
E1CA 20 F1			BRA	RTN3+2	GET X, GO
E1CC 8D ED	SETFLG		BSR	RTN3	SET INPUT FLAG
E1CE 8A 80			ORA A	\$80	MARK FOR KEYBOARD INPUT
E1D0 39			RTS		DONE
		*OUTPUT ROUTINE, A REGISTER TO PORT & SCREEN			
E1D1 36	OUTEE		PSH A		
E1D2 8D DA			BSR	BREAK	OK FOR INTERRUPT
E1D4 24 08			BCC	CNTX	CONTINUE
E1D6 8D 39			BSR	INCHA	GET INPUT
E1D8 81 13			CMP A	\$813	IS IT CTL S ?
E1DA 26 02			BNE	CNTX	NO, CONTINUE
E1DC 8B CE			BSR	INEFF	WAIT THERE
E1DE 32	CNTX		PUL A		IGNORE INPUT
E1DF 36			PSH A		
E1E0 8D 74			BSR	VVIDEO	PUT ON SCREEN
E1E2 7D A0 17	OUTSW		TST	PROUT	PUT IT OUT TO PORT ?
E1E5 26 11			BNE	RTN5	NO GO
E1E7 8D 1C			BSR	SAVGET	GET PORT ADDR & TYPE
E1E9 32			PUL A		GET A
E1EA 37			PSH B		SAVE R
E1EB 2C 0D			RGE	PIAOUT	JTS A PIA
E1ED E6 00	ACIAOU		LDA R	0,X	GET STATUS
E1EF 57			ASR B		
E1F0 57			ASR B		FLAG TO CARRY
E1F1 24 FA			BCC	ACIAOU	NOT READY
E1F3 A7 01			STA A	01,X	SEND IT OUT
E1F5 33	RTN4		PUL R		RESTORE R
E1F6 20 C5			BRA	RTN3+2	RESTORE X, GO
E1F8 32	RTN5		PUL A		GET A, CORRECT STACK
E1F9 39			RTS		GO
E1FA E6 03	PIAOUT		LDA R	03,X	GET STATUS
E1FC 5C			INC B		
E1FD 27 F6			BREQ	RTN4	NO I/O CARD
E1FF 2A F9			BPL	PIAOUT	NOT READY
E201 A7 02			STA A	02,X	SEND IT OUT
E203 20 F0			BRA	RTN4	DONE
E205 FF A0 10	SAVGET		STX	XTEMP	SAVE X
E208 FE A0 0A			LDX	POREAD	GET PORT
E20B B6 A0 0B			LDA A	POREAD+1	GET LSRYTE
E20E B1 10			CMP A	\$810	IS IT A PIA ?

E210 39		RTS		
E211 4D	JNCHA	TST A	KFYIN	OK IF MSR IS SET
E212 2B 15		BSR	SAVCF7	GO TO KEYBOARD
E214 8D FF		RGE	PJATN	GET PORT
E216 2C 04		LDA A	03,X	ITS A PIA
E218 A6 01	ACJAIN	BRA	NUL OUT	GET INPUT
E21A 20 02		LDA A	0,X	
E21C A6 00	PJATN	LDX	XTEMP	GET INPUT
E21E FE A0 10	NUL OUT	AND A	\$#7F	RECOVER X
E221 84 7F	NUL1	CMP A	\$#7F	7 BITS ONLY
E223 81 7F		BFR	BLINK	A RUMOUT?
E225 27 16		BRA	ECHOCK	GO, NO INPUT
E227 20 0E		LDA A	\$803F	ECHO?
E229 B6 80 1E	KEYIN	BRA	ECHOCK	GET DATA
E22C 20 09		LDA A	01,X	ECHO IT?
E22E A6 01	PJACK	JNC A		GET STATUS
E230 4C		RFR	KFYCK	FF=00
E231 27 8E		RPI	KFYCK	NO I/O CARD
E233 2A 8C		BRA	RTN3	NO INPUT
E235 20 84		TST	PORFCH	INPUT, SET FLAG
E237 70 A0 0C	ECHOCK	BFR	OUTFFF	ECHO FLAG
E23A 27 95		RTS		ECHO
E23C 39		DEC	BLNKT+1	NO ECHO
E23D 7A A0 19	BLINK	RNF	RTNY	INCREMENT TIME
E240 26 13		DEC	BLNKT	OK FOR BORROW
E242 7A A0 18	BLINK1	RNF	RTNY	CORRECT BORROW
E245 26 0E		STX	XTEMP	TIME UP? NO, RETURN
E247 FF A0 10		LIX	\$#0800	SAVF IT
E24A CE 08 00		STX	BLNKT	YFS, RSSET TIMER
E24D FF A0 18		BSR	CURSOR	SAVE TIME COUNT
E250 8D 3D		LIX	XTEMP	CHANGE CURSOR
E252 FF A0 10		RTS		RESET RF
E255 39	RTNY	RTS		RD
	*VIDEO	OUTPUT	ROUTINE	PUTS A ON SCREEN (A CHANGED)
E256 81 01	VIDEO	CMP A	\$#01	CHECK FOR CARRIAGE RETN
E258 27 42		BFR	DOCR	
E25A 81 0A		CMP A	\$#0A	CHECK FOR LINE FFFF
E25C 27 4A		BFR	DOI F	
E25E 81 01		CMP A	\$#01	CHECK FOR HOME-UP (CNTL A)
E260 27 5C		BFR	DOCTA	
E262 81 16		CMP A	\$#16	CHECK FOR CLEAR TO END (CNTL V)
E264 27 5F		BFR	DOCTV	
E266 81 08		CMP A	\$#08	CHECK FOR BACKSPACE (CNTL H)
E268 27 6D		BFR	DOCNTH	
E26A 81 17		CMP A	\$#17	CHECK FOR UP CURSOR (CNTL W)
E26C 27 76		BFR	DOUP	
E26E 81 13		CMP A	\$#13	CHECK FOR RIGHT CUR (CNTL S)
E270 27 74		BFR	DORT	
E272 70 A0 16		TST	PRCTI	CHECK WHETHER TO DISPLAY CTI CHAR
E275 26 05		RNF	VOUT	FLAG ON, PUT OUT ALL CTI CHAR
E277 81 20		CMP A	\$#20	CHECK FOR OTHER CONTROL CHAR
E279 2A 01		BPL	VOUT	PUT OUT NON CNTL CHAR, IGNORE OTHER
E27B 39		RTS		
E27C FF A0 10	VOUT	STX	XTEMP	SAVF INDEX REG
E27F FE A0 14		LDX	VIDPNT	GET POINTER
E282 A7 00		STA A	#,X	PUT OUT CHAR
E284 08		INX		GET NEXT CHAR POSN
E285 8C C4 00		CPX	\$TOPSCR+1@24 TO END OF PAGE?	
E288 26 02		RNF	VIDOTI	IF NOT, SKIP SCROLL
E28A 8D 69		BSR	DOROLL	SCROLL SCREEN UP ONE
E28C FF A0 14	VIDOT1	STX	VIDPNT	SAVE POINTER
	*START	CURSOR	ON ROUTINE	
E28F FE A0 14	CURSOR	LDX	VIDPNT	GET POINTER

E292 A6 00	LDA A 0,X	GET CHARACTER AT X
E294 88 80	FOR A #\$80	FLIP REVERSF RTT
E296 A7 00	STA A 0,X	REPLACE REVERSF CHAR
E298 FF A0 10	LDX XTEMP	RESTORE X
E29B 39	RTS	RETURN
*CARRIAGE RETURN ROUTINE		
E29C 8D 4A	NOCR BSR RESTOR	TURN OFF CURSOR
E29E B6 A0 15	LDA A VJNPNT+1	GET LS BYTF
E2A1 84 C0	ANR A #\$C0	MAKE LS BITS 0
E2A3 B7 A0 15	STA A VJNPNT+1	
E2A6 20 F7	BRA CURSOR	TURN ON CURSOR AND RETURN
*LINE FEED ROUTINE		
E2A8 8D 3E	OLF BSR RESTOR	TURN OFF CURSOR
E2AA 86 40	LDA A #64	GO A4 CHARACTERS FORWARD
E2AC 08	INX	PUSH CURSOR POSN FORWARD ONE
E2AD 8C C4 00	CPX #TOPSCR+1024 PAST END YET?	
E2B0 27 05	BNE OLF2	IF PAST, SCROLL AND CONTINUE
E2B2 4A	DEC A	INCREMENT A ONE
E2B3 26 F7	BNE OLF3	IF A IS NOT 0, CONTINUE
E2B5 20 D5	BRA VJNPT1	SAVE NEW CURSOR POSN, TURN ON
E2B7 36	PSH A	SAVE COUNTER
E2B8 8D 3B	BSR DOROLL	SCROLL SCREEN UP AND CLEAR A LINE
E2BA 09	DEX	CORRECT POINTER FOR RF-ENTRY
E2BB 32	PUL A	RESTORE COUNTER
E2BC 20 EE	BRA OLF1	CONTINUE FORWARD MOVE
*HOME-UP ROUTINE		
E2BE 8D 28	DOCNTA BSR RESTOR	TURN OFF CURSOR
E2C0 CE C0 00	LDX #TOPSCR	POINT TO TOP OF SCREEN
E2C3 20 C7	BRA VJNPT1	CLEAN UP
*CLEAR TO END OF SCREEN ROUTINE		
E2C5 FF A0 10	DOCNTV STX XTEMP	SAVE X
E2C8 FE A0 14	LDX VJNPNT	
E2CB 86 20	LDA A #\$20	GET A SPACE
E2CD A7 00	STA A 0,X	PUT IN A SPACE
E2CF 08	INX	MOVE TO NEXT POSN
E2D0 8C C4 00	CPX #TOPSCR+1024 TO END YET?	
E2D3 26 F8	BNE DOCNV1	NO, CONTINUE
E2D5 20 B8	BRA CURSOR	PUT ON CURSOR AND RETURN
*BACKSPACE ROUTINE		
E2D7 8D 0F	DOCNTB BSR RESTOR	TURN OFF CURSOR
E2D9 09	DEX	BACK UP ONE
E2DA 8C BF FF	CPX #TOPSCR-1 CHECK FOR WRAP-AROUND	
E2DD 26 AD	BNE VJNPT1	NO WRAP, ALL DONE
E2DF CE C3 FF	LDX #TOPSCR+1023 CORRECT WRAP	
E2E2 20 A8	VJNPT2 BRA VJNPT1	CLEAN UP AND GO
*BRANCHES FOR RELATIVE BRANCHES		
E2E4 20 2D	DOUP BRA DOUP1	
E2E6 20 3F	DORT BRA DORT1	
*CURSOR OFF ROUTINE		
E2E8 FF A0 10	RESTOR STX XTEMP	SAVE X REG
E2EB FE A0 14	LDX VJNPNT	GET CURSOR POSN
E2EE A6 00	LDA A 0,X	GET BYTE THERE
E2F0 84 7F	AND A #\$7F	MASK OFF 7 BITS
E2F2 A7 00	STA A 0,X	REPLACE BYTE
E2F4 39	RTS	
*SCROLL UP AND CLEAR LINE ROUTINE		
E2F5 CE C0 00	DOROLL LDX #TOPSCR	POINT TO TOP OF SCREEN
E2F8 A6 40	DOROL1 LDA A 64,X	GET CHAR ON 2ND LINE
E2FA A7 00	STA A 0,X	PUT CHAR AT POINTER
E2FC 08	INX	INCREMENT TO NEXT POSN
E2FD 8C C3 C0	CPX #TOPSCR+960 CONTINUE TO BOTTOM LINE	
E300 26 F6	BNE DOROL1	
E302 86 20	LDA A #\$20	GET A SPACE

E304 A7 00	DOROL2	STA A 0,X	PUT IT IN PLACE
E306 08		INX	INCREMENT TO NEXT POSN
E307 8C C4 00		CPX \$TOPSCR+1024	
E30A 26 F8		BNE DOROL2	CONTINUE TO END OF LINE
E30C CE C3 C0		LIX \$TOPSCR+9A0	POINT TO LAST LINE
E30F FF A0 14		STX VJNPNT	RESTORE POINTER
E312 39		RTS	RETURN
*UP CURSOR ROUTINE			
E313 8D D3	DOUP1	BSR RESTOR	TURN OFF CURSOR
E315 86 40		LDA A #64	SET COUNTER TO 64
E317 09	DOUP2	DEX	BACK UP ONE
E318 8C BF FF		CPX \$TOPSCR-1	WRAP AROUND?
E31B 27 05		REQ WRAP	CORRECT IT
E31D 4A		DEC A	COUNT OFF ONE
E31E 26 F7		BNE DOUP2	CONTINUE TILL DONE
E320 20 C0		BRA VJN0T2	DONE, CLEAN UP AND GO
E322 CE C4 00	WRAF	LIX \$TOPSCR+1024	GO TO BOTTOM
E325 20 F0		BRA DOUP2	CONTINUE
*CURSOR RIGHT ROUTINE			
E327 8D BF	DORT1	BSR RESTOR	TURN OFF CURSOR
E329 08		INX	GO RIGHT ONE
E32A 8C C4 00		CPX \$TOPSCR+1024	
E32D 26 B3		BNE VJN0T2	DONE, GO
E32F 8D C4		BSR DOROLL	SCROLL LINE
E331 20 AF		BRA VJN0T2	DONE

## TSC BASIC FOR THE 6800

Prepared by: David Shirk - TSC  
Technical Report - B68

### I. Introduction

In the Fall of 1977, Technical Systems Consultants decided to develop a BASIC interpreter for the 6800 microprocessor. There were several factors motivating this project. Highest on the list was the need for a generally available 6800 BASIC which offered more speed than that provided by the famed Uiterwyk BASIC, the first 6800 BASIC available. An excellent BASIC was available from Microsoft at the time but was priced to scare away most hobbyists and casual users. Another prompting factor was a series of articles in "Kilobaud" magazine which compared the various microcomputer BASIC's in speed (see references 1-3). In one of these articles (ref. 2), Bill Gates of Microsoft was quoted as saying "the 6502 is an inherently faster processor". This statement was apparently made because the Microsoft 6502 BASIC was currently the fastest they had written to that date. TSC has used the 6800, 8080, and 6502 microprocessors and has found no significant speed differences among them. In certain applications one may outperform the others, but these are usually specific instances. The 6800 BASIC was hopefully going to prove that the important speed factor is efficiency of the software and not the characteristics of the 3 micros mentioned.

Another remark along the same lines which we found troublesome was made by J. G. Letwin of Heath Company (see ref. 3). In comparing the Heath H8 and H11 computers running BASIC, the H11 came out on top by almost a factor of two. The comment was made that the "Heath H8 computer, an 8080A machine, performed considerably slower than did the H11 systems, for obvious reasons". These reasons were not "obvious" to us since the LSI-11 processor, even though a 16 bit machine, is not extremely fast. Again, TSC felt that a 6800 BASIC could be developed which would outperform the H11 BASIC (Note: We did not consider competing with the LSI-11 equipped with its floating point firmware since the same option is not available for the 6800).

The BASIC was developed over a fourteen month period. All of the original goals were met with the exception of one, the overall size of the program. The target was an interpreter which required 8K to 8.5K of memory. The final product is 9.5K, a value which is still very reasonable for the number of features supported. It was decided that in the never ending trade-off between size and speed of a program, speed should be the winning factor. This decision was made because memory is becoming less and less expensive, while the cost of CPU speed is somewhat fixed. The speed of the TSC 6800 BASIC exceeds all other currently available floating point BASIC's for 8 bit micros. The goal of outperforming the LSI-11 BASIC as supplied by the Heath Company was also achieved. All of the pertinent timing information will follow shortly.

The resultant BASIC is very easy to use and is compatible with the majority of BASIC's on the market. A full disk file version for the FLEX™ operating system will be available in the near future, as well as a 6809 version. The 6809 BASIC will show an even more dramatic improvement in speed and will be available in May, 1979!

## II. Features of TSC BASIC

The TSC BASIC for the 6800 supports all of the standard BASIC statements and functions. Many extended features have been provided as well. A complete list of features appears in the appendix. Some of the highlights will be described here. One nice feature is the ability to use two letter variable names. Standard BASIC requires either single letter or letter followed by a number. TSC BASIC will allow the use of letter followed by letter which permits limited variable name mnemonics. Most BASIC's allow multiple statements per line. Some use a colon (':') as the separator while others use a backslash ('\'). TSC BASIC supports both, thus alleviating some confusion for those entering published BASIC programs.

A very important new feature provided is the 'IF THEN ELSE' construct. The majority of BASIC's only support the THEN clause. The addition of the 'ELSE' promotes a more structured type programming style, thus improving readability and conciseness of the program. Along with this, the input line buffer has been increased to 127 characters from the typical 72 to accept the longer lines possible with the 'IF THEN ELSE' statements.

'PEEK' and 'POKE' have been widely accepted as useful BASIC features. The big problem in the past has been the necessity of referencing machine memory addresses in decimal, whereas most users think hex when it comes to address locations. The 'HEX' function has been implemented for this application. This unique function will allow a string expression as an argument and return an equivalent decimal number. The string argument is interpreted as a string of hex digits. As an example, to examine the contents of location \$8004 (the '\$' implies hex), the following statement may be used; PRINT PEEK( HEX( "8004" ) ). This is much easier than having to do a manual conversion from hex to decimal before entering the statement! The HEX function also comes in handy when using the logical operators (AND, NOT, and OR) to perform bit wise operations. The mask can be represented as a hex value as opposed to using decimal.

Many of the popular BASIC's put restricting limits on several of the statements, such as only allowing a maximum of 8 nested FOR-NEXT loops. TSC BASIC allows as many nested loops and subroutine calls as memory

will permit. This applies to string variables as well. Strings may be any length (limited to 65,535 because of the limit on memory) and are fully dynamic (their length does not have to be specified before use and may change in size at any time). Array sizes are also limited only by

the amount of memory installed in the machine. Both single and double dimensioned arrays are supported and can be floating point or string type variables. It should be noted that subscripts of 0 are permitted in TSC BASIC!

A very convenient string oriented statement has been included, 'INPUT LINE'. This feature allows a complete input line (leading spaces, commas, quotes, etc.) to be assigned to a string variable. This solves the problem of entering certain characters from an INPUT statement. Just a few of the nice features have been described here. For a complete list of commands, statements, functions, and specifications, consult the appendix.

### III. Timing Comparisons

The features were presented before the timing information because many times, features are more important. For those who find speed to be the important factor, the following tables will show TSC BASIC to be on top! Table I shows the results of the 7 "Kilobaud" benchmarks (references 1 and 2). Since a 2 megahertz 6502 was listed, the TSC BASIC is also listed at 2 megahertz along with the standard speed. Table II shows the results of the "Heath benchmarks" also presented in "Kilobaud" magazine (reference 3). From these results it can be seen that the TSC BASIC runs faster overall than the Heath H11 computer! Examine these tables closely. They speak for themselves.

### IV. Conclusion

TSC succeeded in all of its original goals in implementing the TSC BASIC for the 6800. A wide variety of statements and functions are supported and the speed of the interpreter exceeds that of all other floating point BASIC's for 8 bit micros. Overall, the BASIC is an efficient and easy to use program!

### V. References

1. T. Rugg, "BASIC Timing Comparisons", KILOBAUD, June 1977, pp 66-70
2. T. Rugg, "BASIC Timing Comparisons - Revisited", KILOBAUD, Oct 1977, pp 20-25
3. J. Letwin, "Another Look at Benchmark Programs", KILOBAUD, Nov 1977, pp 98-101

TABLE I

BASIC & Machine	CPU	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ave.
TSC on SWTPC @ 2Mhz	6800	0.4	1.6	5.0	5.2	5.5	8.5	13.1	5.61
OSI 8K @ 2Mhz	6502	0.9	4.6	8.2	9.3	10.0	14.8	21.6	9.91
TSC on SWTPC @ 1Mhz	6800	0.9	3.2	10.1	10.4	11.0	16.9	26.2	11.24
OSI 8K @ 1Mhz	6502	1.6	8.9	16.2	18.2	19.7	29.2	42.9	19.53
PET BASIC	6502	1.7	9.8	18.6	20.4	22.1	32.6	51.3	22.36
Altair 8K (4.0)	8080	1.7	10.2	21.0	22.5	24.3	36.7	52.4	24.11
TRS 80 Level II	Z80	2.6	10.9	25.4	26.1	31.0	51.0	78.4	32.2
Altair 680B (3.2)	6800	2.5	16.3	30.7	33.4	36.3	55.9	81.8	36.7
HEATH H8	8080	3.5	15.6	31.5	34.5	41.4	67.6	97.4	41.64
Tektronix Level 5	6800	4.8	14.0	33.0	36.3	40.7	68.8	103.8	43.04

Computer Ware BASIC	6800	8.1	16.0	44.6	49.7	53.1	93.0	116.9	54.49
SWTPC BASIC (3.5)	6800		12.8	21.4	82.8	90.5	93.9	149.7	175.7
									89.54

TABLE II

Operation	TSC*	TSC	H11	H8
A=B	0.4	0.9	0.5	3.0
B+C	0.4	0.8	1.0	2.3
B-C	0.5	0.9	1.1	2.5
B*C	0.9	1.9	1.9	3.8
B/C	1.2	2.4	2.0	4.9
BTC	14.3	28.5	23	35
SIN(B)	6.5	13	14	13
COS(B)	7.5	15	16	13
TAN(B)	10.9	21.9	32	24
ATN(B)	8.3	16.5	19	21
LOG(B)	7.7	15.3	14	19
SQR(B)	3.1	6.3	7.2	13
EXP(B)	6.5	13	13	15
5 FOR NEXT	2.4	4.8	7.5	23
A\$=B\$	0.9	1.9	1.0	4.6
B\$+C\$	0.5	1.0	2.0	4.5
LEFT\$(B\$,1)	0.4	0.8	1.7	5.8
A=B(I)	0.2	0.4	0.5	2.6
Totals =	72	145	157	210

\*Note: The first column is TSC at 2 Megahertz.  
Second is at 1 Megahertz.

Ed's Note: Information received as of the date of this article indicate the following may be of some interest to users of SWTPC BASIC, when converting to TSC BASIC.

1. The disk versions will load from disk BASIC source in SWTPC format.

2. The cassette version handles certain delimiters (etc.) in SWTPC BASIC different than is handled in TSC BASIC. This probably means that some SWTPC BASIC developed programs on tape, will not load into TSC BASIC.

3. Coming later is the extended version of TSC BASIC, this version will have extended math precision (12 digits) and some additional commands for business type applications. (PRINT USING, etc.)

4. For those upgrading to the 6809, TSC will have soon the 6809 BASIC. Watch TSC advertising in 68 Micro Journal.

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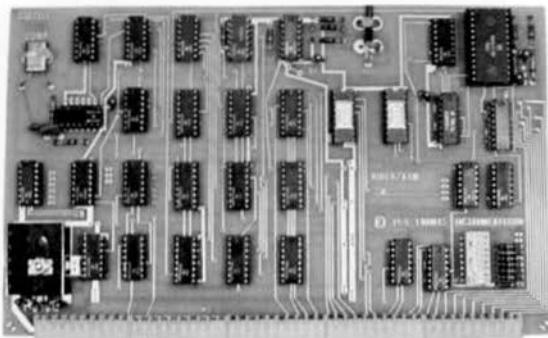
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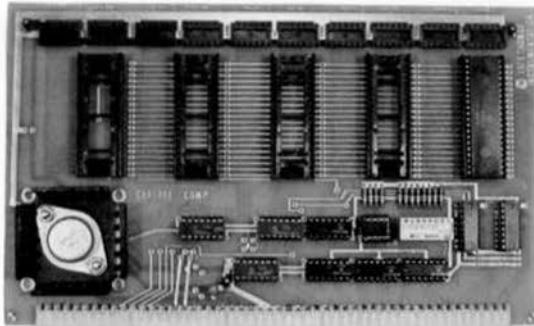
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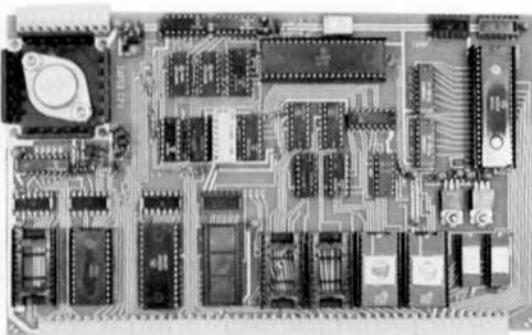
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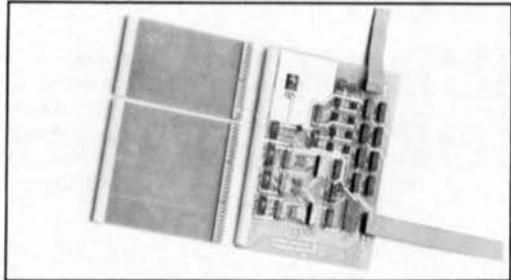
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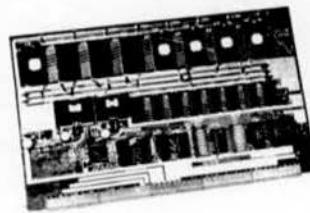
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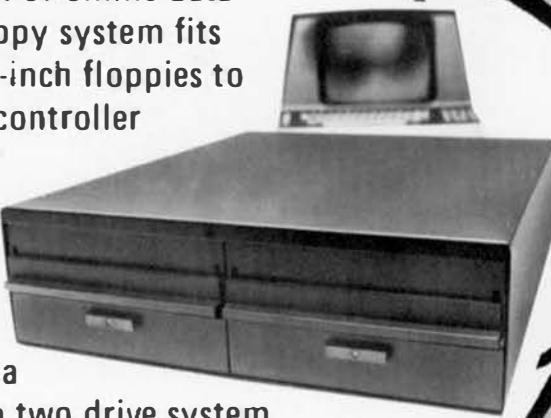
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